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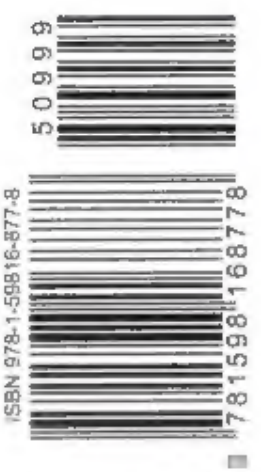
OT
OLDER TEEN
AGE 16+

ACTION

JOURNEY TO THE MAX

Ukoku/Ni Jianyi returns! The renegade Sanzo priest tells Hazel of the Great Sage Equalling Heaven, how he is the most dangerous youkai in the land, and that the Sage is traveling with the Sanzo party. Hazel now has to make a new decision: Is his personal quest worth sacrificing a new friend? Meanwhile, the Sanzo party ends up in a mysteriously prosperous and youkai-free village. What kind of deal has the village headman made to maintain their safety? And what will happen when the fearsome foursome get involved?!



SAIYUKI RELOAD

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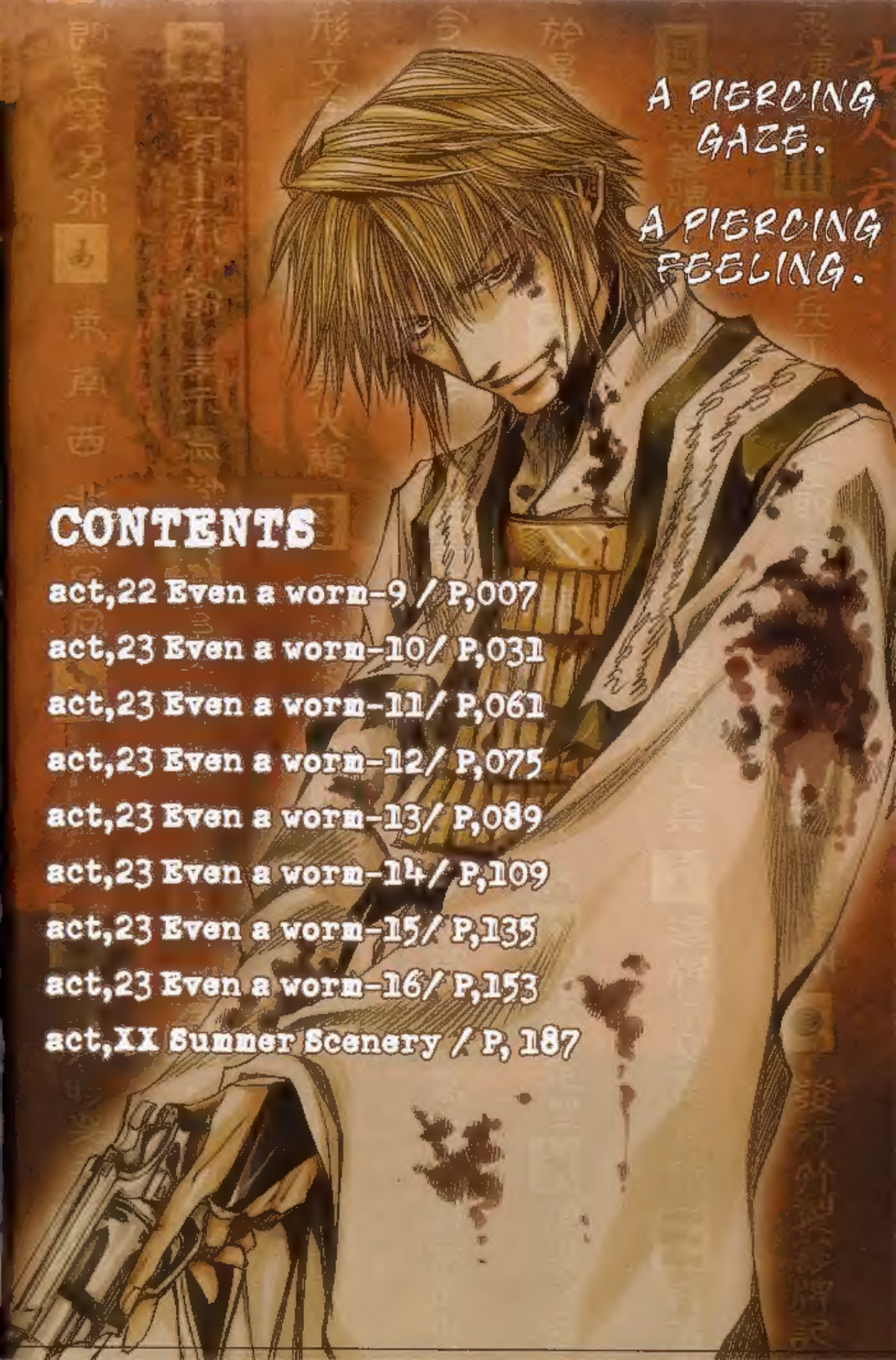
6



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The Story So Far

Chaos has ravaged Shangri-La. During an attempt by dark forces to revive the Ox King Gyumaoh, the combination of science and youkai magic sent a Minus Wave surging through the land that drove all youkai berserk. thus causing mass violence and upsetting the peaceful balance between the races. Now it's up to four companions–the youkai Son Goku, Sha Gojyo. and Cho Hakkai, and the human Priest Genjyo Sanzo–to travel West and stop the experiment that plagues the world. It's an excellent plan...save for the fact that the four companions suffer from "teamwork issues."

In an unexpected and somewhat distasteful arrangement, Sanzo and his party found themselves traveling with Bishop Hazel and his servant Gat. Hazel was happy to use his soul-transferring power to kill youkai and revive local humans, but the ethical complications of such a technique resounded even with Goku. A stark difference of opinion rose once Hazel targeted an innocent youkai child, and the event brought to light yet another problem–Hazel's admittance to wanting the death of all youkai. This, unsurprisingly, led to a giant fight.

The reintroduction of the youkai child put a halt to the violence. Although steadfast in his ideas, Hazel proved that he may *not* be the hardest bastard in the world by letting the young youkai go. Goku then challenged Hazel and Gat, claiming that he and the others could turn the youkai in Shangri-La sane again before Hazel and Gat could eliminate them all. It was on these terms that the two parties separated...and was possibly why shortly after, Ni came before Hazel as Ukoku Sanzo.

Genjyo Sanzo –

A very brutal, worldly priest. He drinks, smokes, gambles and even carries a gun. He's looking for the sacred scripture of his late master, Koumyou Sanzo. He's egotistical, haughty and has zero sense of humor, but this handsome 23-year-old hero also has calm judgment and charisma. His favorite phrases are "Die" and "I'll kill you." His main weapons are the Maten Sutra, a handgun, and a paper fan for idiots. He's 177cm tall (approx. 5'10") and is often noted for his drooping purple eyes.

Son Goku –

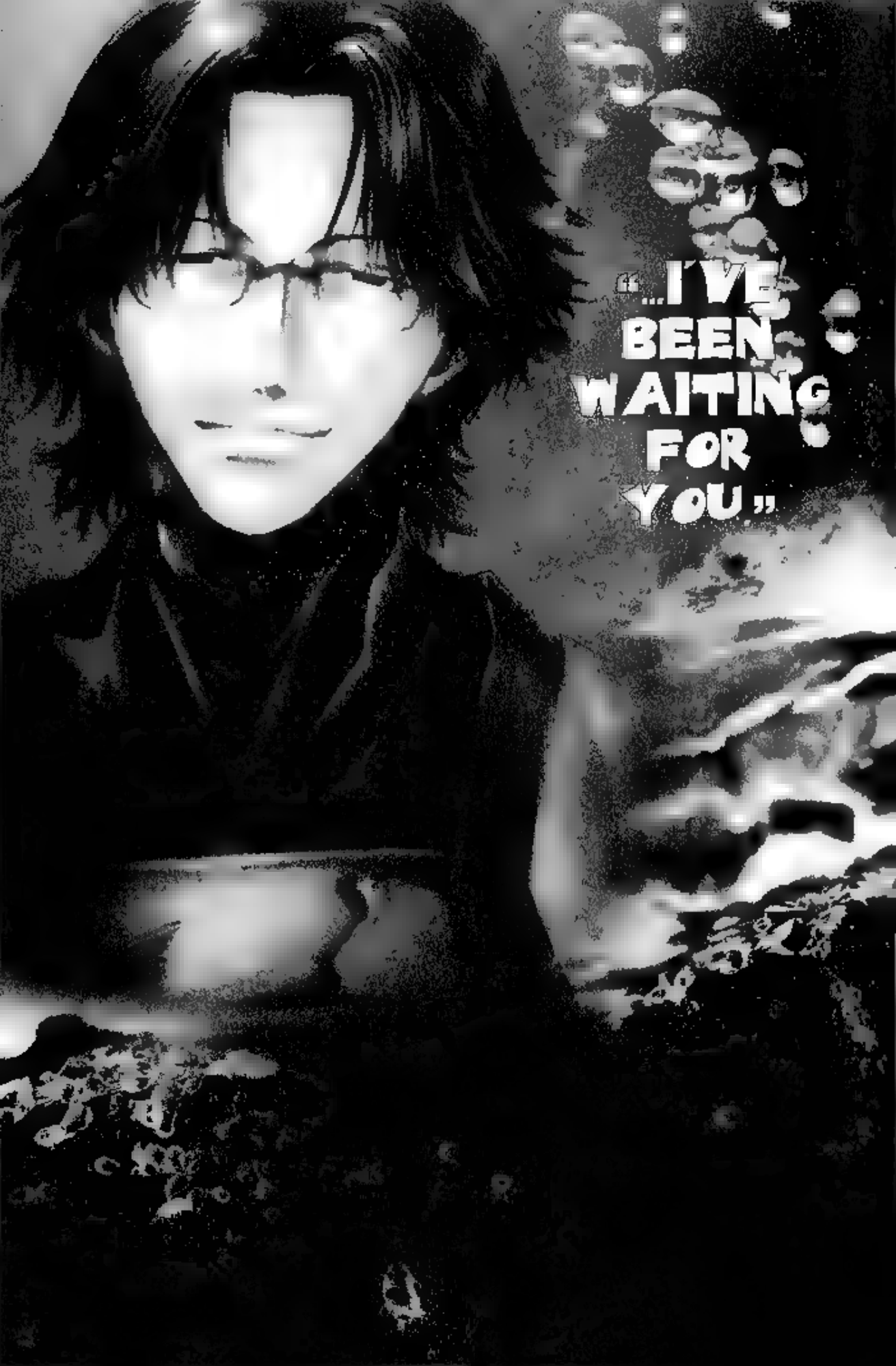
The brave, cheerful Monkey King of legend; an unholy child born from the rocks where the aura of the Earth was gathered. His brain is full of thoughts of food and games. To pay for crimes he committed when he was young, he was imprisoned in the rocks for five hundred years without aging. Because of his optimistic personality, he's become the mascot character of the group; this 18-year-old of superior health is made fun of by Gojyo, yelled at by Sanzo and watched over by Hakkai. He's 162cm tall (approx. 5'4"). His main weapon is the Nyoi-Bo, a magical cudgel that can extend into a sansekkon staff.

Sha Gojyo –

Gojyo is a lecherous kappa (water youkai). His behavior might seem vulgar and rough at first glance (and it is), but to his friends, he's like a dependable older brother. He and Goku are sparring partners, he and Hakkai are best friends and he and Sanzo are bad friends (ha ha!). Sometimes his love for the ladies gets him into trouble. Because of his unusual heritage, he doesn't need a limiter to blend in with the humans. His favorite way of fighting is to use a shakujou, a staff with a crescent-shaped blade connected by a chain; it's quite messy. He's 184cm tall (approx. 6'), has scarlet hair and eyes and is a 22-year-old chain smoker.

Cho Hakkai –

A pleasant, rather absent-minded young man with a kind smile that suits him nicely. It's sometimes hard to tell whether he's serious or laughing to himself at his friends' expense. His darker side comes through from time to time in the form of a sharp, penetrating gaze, a symbol of a dark past. As he's Hakuryu's (the white dragon) owner, he gets to drive the Jeep. Because he uses kikou jutsu (Chi manipulation) in battle, his "weapon" is his smile (ha ha!). He's 22 years old, 181cm tall (approx. 5'11") and his eyes are deep green (his right eye is nearly blind). The cuffs he wears on his left ear are Youkai power limiters.


"...I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU."

act.22
Even a worm-9

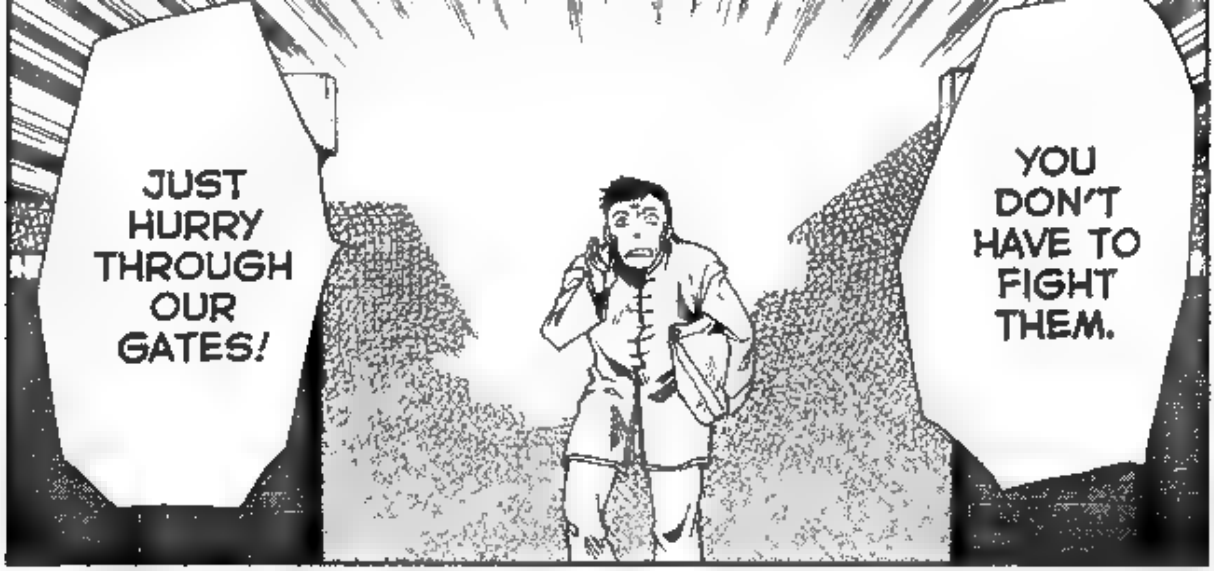
LONG TIME NO HANG.
HOW ARE YOU THESE DAYS?
WELL, IF THAT DON'T BEAT ALL! NICE TO SEE YA, MR. UKOKU!
OH, GAT. HAVE I MENTIONED THIS GENTLEMAN?
THIS IS MISTER UKOKU-- PRIEST UKOKU SANZO.
LOOK AT YOU, HAZEL. YOU'RE ALL GROWN UP.
YOU WERE ALWAYS ADORABLE, BUT NOW YOU'RE DOWNRIGHT HOT.
HA HA!
YOU'RE EMBARRASSIN' ME, SIR
I S'POSE SOME THINGS NEVER DO CHANGE WITH YOU.

I'M FLATTERED THAT YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY JUST TO SEE ME.
DID I NOW? I'M SORRY TO SAY, SIR, BUT YOU DIDN'T EXACTLY LEAVE A CONTACT ADDRESS.
WHEN I WAS A BOY, HE STAYED AT MY CHURCH FOR TWO WEEKS.
HE'S THE ONE WHO TAUGHT ME ABOUT THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
.....
BY THE WAY.
HOW'S BISHOP FILBERT DOING?
.....
IS THAT RIGHT?
I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT.
...MASTER PASSED, I'M AFRAID.
HE WAS KILLED TEN YEARS AGO BY A MONSTER WE COULDN'T BEAT.

WE ALMOST REACHED TOWN WITHOUT INCIDENT TODAY.
BETTER BEFORE TOWN THAN IN IT.
GIMME FOOOOD!
GODDAMN. AFTER DRIVING ON THIS SEAT OVER TWO FRIGGIN' MOUNTAINS...
WHAT A SHAME!
WHAT A SHAME.

GIMME FOOD!
...THE MONKEY'S WHINING IS STILL A BIGGER PAIN IN MY ASS.
YOU MIGHT TRY FILLING HIM WITH FOOD TO STOP THE NOISE.
SAY YOUR PRAYERS, SANZO!
WE'RE HERE TO TAKE YOUR SUTRA AND KILL THE LOT OF YA!
GIMME FOOOOD.
THE SAME TECHNIQUE SHOULD APPLY.
WE'LL JUST FILL THEM UP WITH SOMETHING... MORE APPROPRIATE.
ANOTHER CLICHÉ MY LIFE'S A BROKEN RECORD.

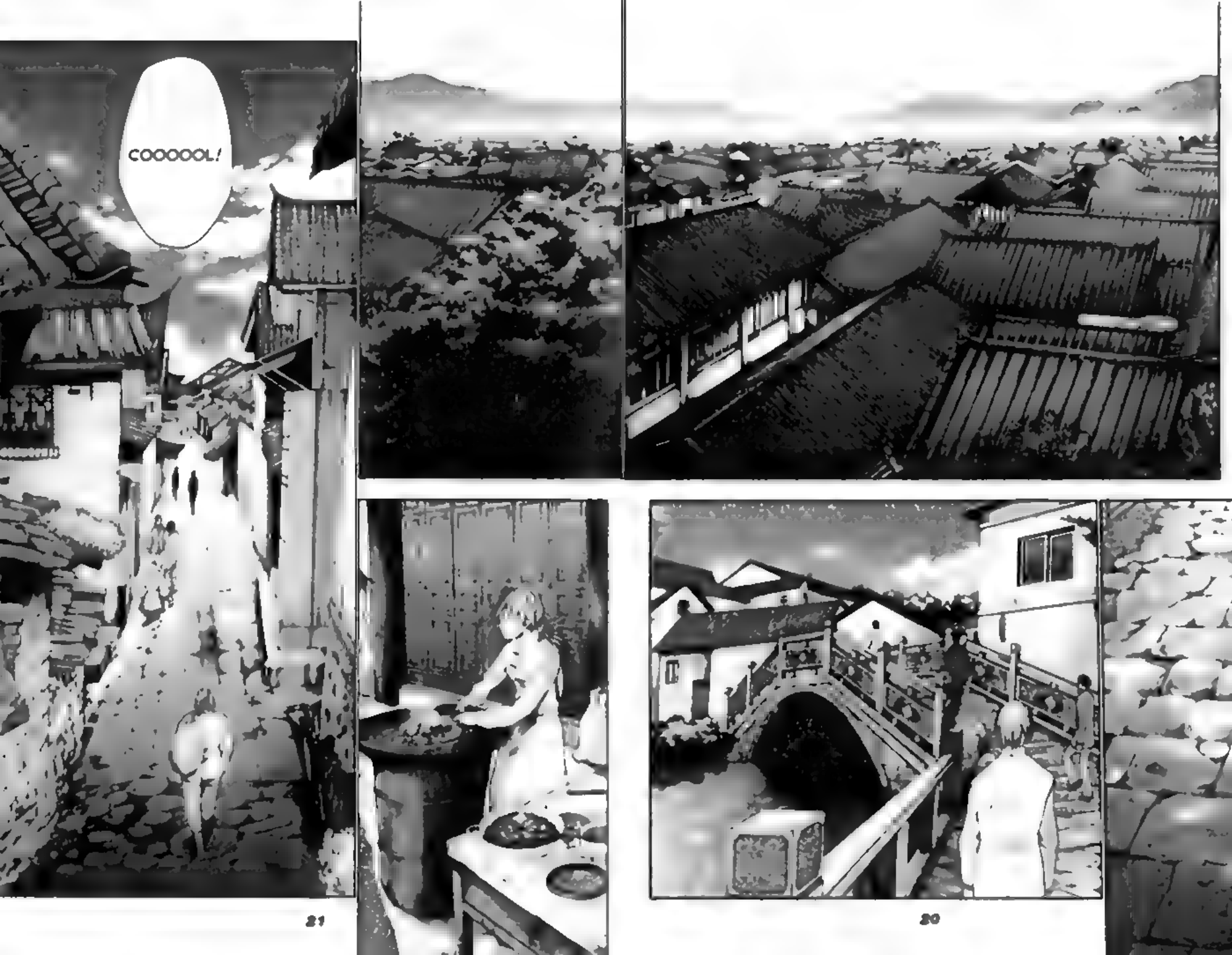
YOU HEARD THE MAN!
WE CAN'T EAT IF WE DON'T BEAT THEM QUICKLY, GOKU!
GIMME THE SUTR-
ACK!
SIR PRIEST!
FFT


JUST HURRY THROUGH OUR GATES!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT THEM.

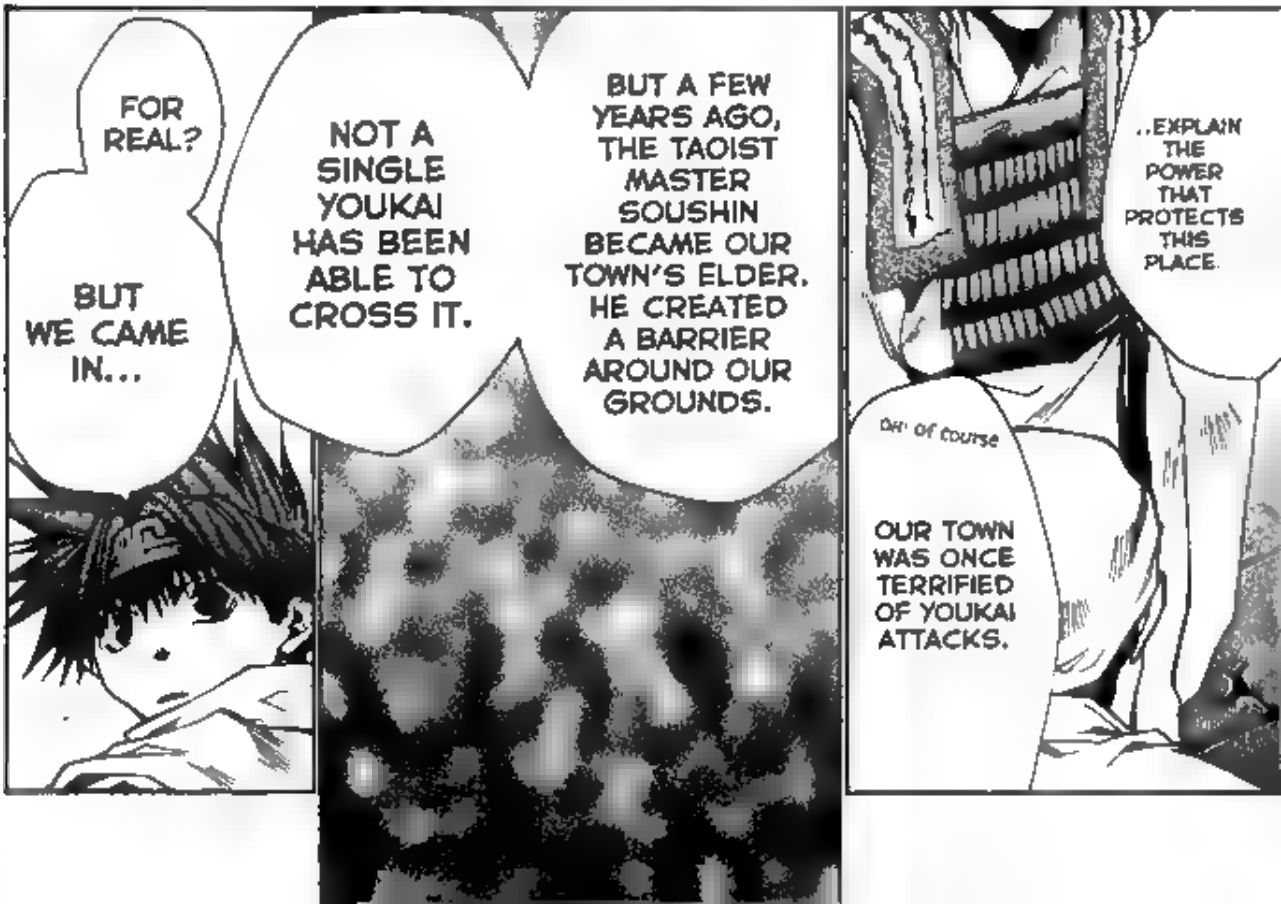
IT'S ALL RIGHT! HURRY!
BUT--
HUH?

WAIT A SEC. IS THAT-
YEAH...
I'M SURE THEY WON'T.
THE YOUKAI ARE ONLY GONNA FOLLOW US, Y'KNOW.

TO HELL WITH THAT! WE'LL JUST WAIT 'TIL THEY LEAVE TOWN.
YOU GOT LUCKY, SANZO!
THE NEXT TIME WE SEE YOU, THE SUTRA'S OURS!
...MWUH?
THOSE GUYS ACTUALLY LEFT.
THAT WAS CLOSE.
IT WOULD BE BEST IF YOU STAYED IN OUR TOWN FOR A WHILE.
TH-THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR.
MAY I ASK WHAT'S GOING ON?
THIS AREA IS PROTECTED BY A MIGHTY HOLY POWER.
"HOLY POWER"?
THIS WAY, PLEASE.

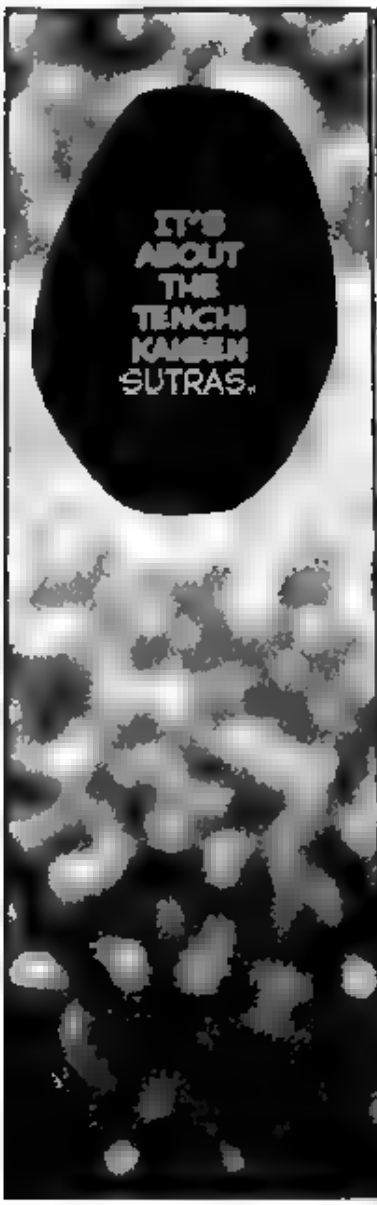

COOOOOL!

THIS PLACE'S HUGE!
STONE ROADS, FANCY.
COME TO THINK OF IT, THE SCENERY'S BEEN KINDA DIFFERENT SINCE WE CROSSED THOSE MOUNTAINS.
WE'VE COME A LONG WAY, GOJYO.


..EXPLAIN THE POWER THAT PROTECTS THIS PLACE.
Oh! of course
OUR TOWN WAS ONCE TERRIFIED OF YOUKAI ATTACKS.
BUT A FEW YEARS AGO, THE TAOIST MASTER SOUSHIN BECAME OUR TOWN'S ELDER. HE CREATED A BARRIER AROUND OUR GROUNDS.
NOT A SINGLE YOUKAI HAS BEEN ABLE TO CROSS IT.
FOR REAL?
BUT WE CAME IN...

I SUPPOSE WE CAN RELAX HERE.
WELL, THAT'S LOVELY.
?
...AN' WE'RE--
OW!
...HUNH. SO THESE GUYS THINK THEIR TOWN'S SAFE FROM YOUKAI?
PLEASE DO.
GIMME A BREAK.
THE THREE OF US GOT IN HERE. THE BARRIER CAN'T BE LEGIT.

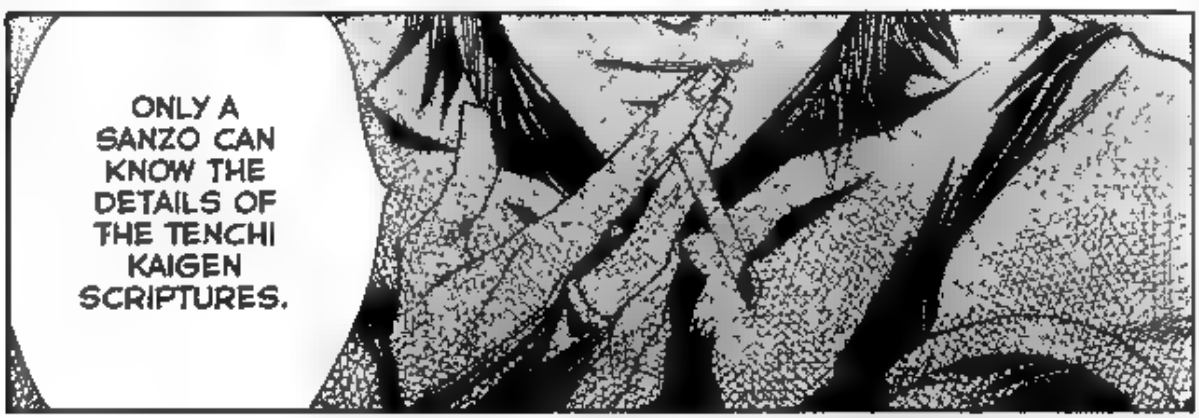
THE BARRIER COULD BE TOO WEAK FOR YOU OR SOMETHING.
LET ME REMIND YOU--YOU GOONS AREN'T NORMAL YOUKAI.
STILL, THOSE YOUKAI FROM EARLIER DIDN'T FOLLOW US IN.


IT'S ABOUT THE TENCHI KAIBEN SUTRAS.

WE GET A BREAK FROM STUPID BAD GUYS CHASIN' US EVERY DAY AN' EVERY NIGHT, YELLIN' "GIVE US THE SUTRAAA!!"
BLECH. WHO CARES?
NOW WE GET TO SLEEP AS LONG AS WE WANT!

WHAT?
SANZO.
MAY I ASK YOU SOMETHING I SHOULD HAVE ASKED A *VERY* LONG TIME AGO?

GYU-MAOH'S FOLLOWERS HAVE PERSIST-ENTLY COME AFTER THEM.
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT THEY WANT TO USE THEM FOR?
...HELL. I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THAT.
I JUST THOUGHT THEY SEEMED KINDA IMPORTANT, SO WE COULDN'T GIVE 'EM TO TH' BAD GUYS.
.....
THAT IS A LATE QUESTION.
WE'VE NEVER REALLY DISCUSSED THE PARTIC-ULARS.


ONLY A SANZO CAN KNOW THE DETAILS OF THE TENCHI KAIGEN SCRIPTURES.

ASIDE FROM MY MATEN AND SEITEN SUTRAS, THERE ARE THREE OTHERS.
THE UTEN, THE MUTEN AND THE KOUTEN SUTRAS.

...HAS THE TITLE OF SANZO.
ANYONE CHOSEN AS A GUARDIAN OF ONE OF THOSE...
THE MUTEN SUTRA RULES OVER "DEATH" AND "NOTHINGNESS."
...THE OTHER SUTRAS HAVE THEIR INDIVIDUAL POWERS.
JUST LIKE THE MATEN SUTRA HAS THE POWER TO PURIFY EVIL...
THE MATEN SUTRA RULES OVER "EVIL" AND "YIN."
THE SEITEN SUTRA RULES OVER "SANCTITY" AND "YANG."
...THE UTEN SUTRA, "LIFE" AND "EXISTENCE."
THE KOUTEN SUTRA RULES OVER "THE UNKNOWN" AND "THE INFINITE."
EACH SUTRA IS POWERFUL ALONE.
BUT SUPPOSEDLY, BRINGING THEM TOGETHER PRODUCES AN EVEN HIGHER DEGREE OF MAGIC.
I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN THE POWER OF THE OTHER SUTRAS MYSELF.

NOT QUITE.
THAT SOUNDS AWESOME.
SO YA CAN DO COOLER STUFF IF YOU PUT 'EM ALL TOGETHER?
I wanna
OH. WELL, THAT EXPLAINS IT.
No wonder there's no Sanzo Union.
NOBODY WANTS THEM TO ACCIDENTALLY BUMP INTO EACH OTHER
I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF ALL FIVE CAME TOGETHER.
IT'S SAID THAT THE TENCHI KAIGEN SUTRAS, THE "HEAVEN AND EARTH FOUNDATION" SUTRAS, WERE USED IN THE WORLD'S CREATION.
SO TH' SANZO'S NOT A BIG DEAL-- IT'S JUST TH' STUFF IN HIS BACKPACK!
UH, IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR A PSYCHO LIKE HIM TO HAVE TWO OF THOSE CRAZY THINGS?
I CAN HEAR YOU, TEAM BRAIN-TRUST.
THAT'S WHY SANZO PRIESTS ACT IN DIFFERENT REGIONS.
FIRST OF ALL, THE POWER OF THE SUTRAS CAN ONLY BE USED BY WHOEVER'S INHERITED THE RESPONSIBILITY OF--

IS SOMETHING WRONG, SANZO?
.....?
...NO.
IT'S NOTHING.
MY MASTER TRULY WAS AN ABLE EXORCIST.
BUT HE WAS ALSO TOO KIND.
A MONSTER TOOK ADVANTAGE WHEN THE BISHOP'S GUARD WAS DOWN.
HN.
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT HAPPENED TO BISHOP FILBERT.
.....

I'M NOT LIKE HIM.
I KNOW MONSTERS AND HUMANS CAN'T LIVE TOGETHER.
KATCHIK
I CAME ALL THE WAY TO SHANGRI-LA BELIEVIN' THAT.
...DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MONSTER WHO KILLED FILBERT?
NOW I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S RIGHT AND WHAT'S WRONG.
BUT WHILE WE WERE TRAVELIN', I MET A GROUP OF STRANGE GENTLEMEN.
I WAS ATTACKED, I RECKON. THAT'S ALL I RECALL.
I THINK HE GOT AWAY.
I'M NOT SURE WHY, BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER MUCH.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE "SEITEN TAISEI"?
...SO HE WAS A TOUGH SON OF A BITCH.
THAT MONSTER KILLED MY MASTER...
HN.
SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL, IT'S BEEN SAID THAT THEY ARE A SOURCE OF WOE.
THERE ARE MONSTERS--YOUKAI--WITH THAT KIND OF POWER IN SHANGRI-LA.
...SAY, HAZEL.

God
A HERETICAL DEMON BORN BY BREATHING IN THE LIFE ENERGY OF THE EARTH. HE HAS THE GOLDEN EYES OF MISFORTUNE.
IT'S SAID THAT HE COMMITTED A SEVERE CRIME IN HEAVEN AND WAS SEALED IN SHANGRI-LA.
Human
THE SEITEN...
RIGHT.
Demon
THE SEITEN TAISEI...
Light
THE GREAT SAGE EQUALING HEAVEN.
Darkness

act.23
Even a worm-10

TOURAIJUN
YOU SNOT-NOSED LITTLE CHIMP!
L-LEGGO! YOU STOLE IT FROM ME FIRST!
CIVILIZED MEMBERS OF SOCIETY SHARE THEIR FOOD!
Now spit it out or I'll choke you!
DON'T SPOIL THEM, SANZO.
THIS PLACE HAS MORE SPRING ROLLS. WE CAN ORDER MORE SPRING ROLLS.
...ANYWAY.
WE'RE NOT LUGGAGE, MAN.
THEY WOULDN'T FIT IN THE BACKSEAT.
WHAT WOULD WE DO IF GOJYO AND GOKU GAINED MID-LIFE BELLY BULGES?

Miss, over here!
More gyoza for table three!
AT LEAST THE RACKET YOU TWO MAKE FITS IN WITH THIS PLACE.
INDEED.
I WONDER IF THE ACTIVITY IS A RESULT OF THE YOUKAI BARRIER ALLAYING THEIR FEARS.

WE'RE IN THE MOUNTAINS, LET'S NOT FORGET.
THE TOWN ALREADY HAS TO BE FAIRLY SELF-SUFFICIENT.
THAT WOULDN'T MATTER IF THE TOWN WERE PREPARED TO BE ISOLATED.
BUT AREN'T THERE STILL TONS OF YOUKAI AS SOON AS YA LEAVE?
I DUNNO.

A LANDLOCKED ISLAND.
EXCUSE ME.
MAY I HAVE A MOMENT?
THIS PLACE IS HUGE, BUT THEY KEEP SAYING THE ONLY INN IS THE ONE WE'RE STAYING AT.
IT MAKES SENSE.
MIGHT THAT PRIEST YOU'RE SITTING WITH BE THE GREAT LORD SANZO?
YES...
MASTER SOUSHIN HEARD THAT SUCH A CELEBRATED PRIEST WAS IN TOWN. HE SAID HE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO MEET HIM.
DO YOU HAVE SOME BUSINESS WITH HIM?
NO.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO HATE HIM FOR ASKING, TIGHTASS.

SOUSHI-?
THE TAOIST WHO SAVED OUR TOWN FROM THE YOUKAI.
HE'S HAILED AS OUR ELDER.
THE GREAT LORD SANZO, ONE OF THE HIGHEST RANKING BUDDHIST PRIESTS IN SHAMBH-LA.
THAT YOU WOULD GRACE OUR TOWN WITH YOUR PRESENCE IS AN HONOR.
IF IT PLEASES YOU, I WOULD ASK THAT YOU STAY IN THIS MANSION RATHER THAN IN THE CHEAP INN YOU HAVE RESERVED

THIS'S A BIGASS HOUSE.
HE A CELEBRITY OR SOME THIN'?
I THINK IT REFLECTS HOW THE TOWNSPEOPLE FEEL ABOUT HIM.
THERE'S NO NEED.
I SEE YOU ARE QUITE MODEST, PRIEST.
I'VE HEARD...
...THAT YOUR BARRIER IS THE REASON YOUKAI DON'T SET FOOT IN THIS PLACE.
YOU MUST POSSESS CONSIDERABLE POWER TO CAST A BARRIER OVER SUCH A LARGE AREA.
HOW KIND OF YOU TO SAY.
THIS TOWN HAS ALWAYS BEEN LARGE, BUT SURROUNDING YOUKAI DEALT IT AN INORDINATE AMOUNT OF DAMAGE.
I COINCIDENTALLY STOPPED HERE TO REST TWO YEARS AGO AND CAST THE SPELL. ONE THING LED TO ANOTHER, AND THE PEOPLE OFFERED ME THE TITLE OF ELDER AND ASKED THAT I UNIFY THIS TOWN.

BUT A SPELL-CASTER OF MY POWER CAN TELL THE DIFFERENCE AT A GLANCE.
THERE IS NO NEED TO WORRY.
INCIDENTALLY.
Hey
A YOUKAI WITH A POWER LIMITER'S PRETTY CLOSE TO A HUMAN THESE DAYS, HUH?
HA HA! INDEED.

...HOW LONG WERE YOU PLANNING TO STAY?
WE'LL HAVE LEFT BY NOON TOMORROW.

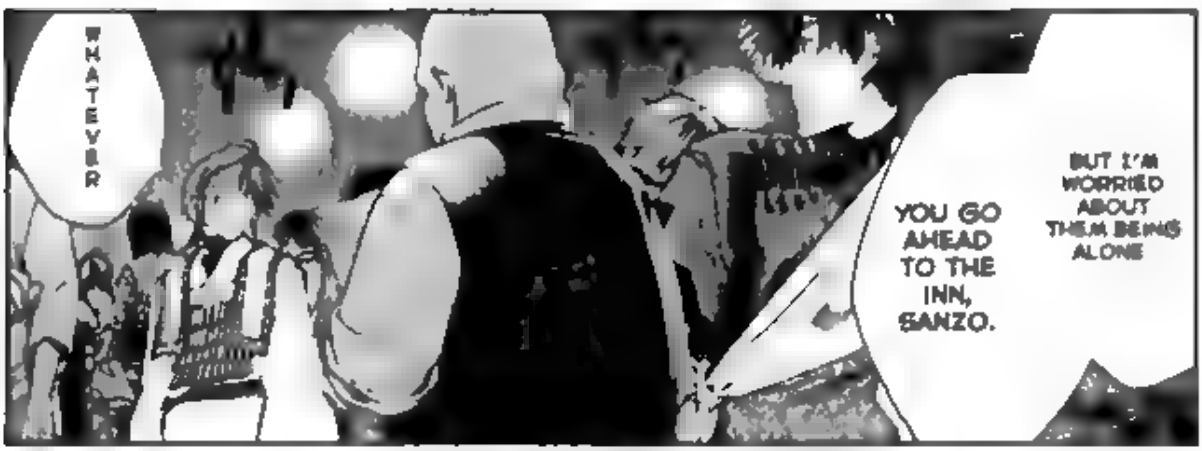
WE'RE IN A HURRY, UNFORTU-NATELY.
THIS IS A SAFE, THRIVING TOWN. WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO STAY A WHILE.
SUCH A WASTE

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
WELL, WE HAPPEN TO BE HAVING A FESTIVAL THIS EVENING. PLEASE ENJOY IT AS YOU WILL.
THAT IS UNFORTUNATE.
ELDER.
YES?
...YOUR GARB MAKES IT CLEAR TO EVERYONE.
THE PEOPLE OF OUR TOWN ARE DEEPLY PIOUS.
WHO TOLD YOU I WAS A SANZO?
YOU NEGLECTED TO EXPLAIN SOMETHING.

WOW!
THIS FESTIVAL THINGY ROCKS!
EVEN THE BACK STREETS ARE CROWDED.
ALL RIGHT
I THINK WE SHOULD DISCUSS THAT ELDER.
BUT LOOK AT THIS PLACE.
HE'S DEFINITELY HIDING SOMETHING.
HE KEPT TALKIN' LIKE HE'S SO AWESOME, BUT HE COULDN'T EVEN TELL WE'RE YOUKAI.
SUSPI-CIOUS AS HELL. NEXT?

IF THAT TAOIST DOES HAVE SOMETHING UP HIS SLEEVE, AT LEAST IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH US FOR A CHANGE.
...HEY.
HIS TOWN'S SUCCESSFUL AND COMPLETELY UNRANSACKED.
Mister, name your price!
I AM TALKING.
YOU CAN'T HONESTLY EXPECT THEM TO LISTEN.
not on a night like tonight
You ladies are really so?
I GET ENOUGH NOISE AND HORSEPLAY FROM YOU TWO REJECTS.
GIVE ME A BREAK.
YEAH! I WANNA PLAY!
YOU HEARD HIM, SANZO. YOU DON'T WALK IN ON A PARTY EVERY DAY-- LET'S GET DOWN FOR A CHANGE.

THAT WAS NO SURPRISE.
GOJYO! GOKU!
AH!
FORGET TWEEDLE-DEE AND TWEEDLE-DICK.
HORSEPLAY IT IS!


WHATEVER
YOU GO AHEAD TO THE INN, SANZO.
BUT I'M WORRIED ABOUT THEM BEING ALONE

CHEER UP, SCOWLY. LET'S GET SOME ALCOHOL IN YOU!
GWA HA HA!
WOOOOW! YOU'RE WAY TOO FINE TO BE A PRIEST!
♥
EH...

I THOUGHT THESE PEOPLE WERE PIOUS!
...YES.
THE LORD SANZO AND HIS COMPANIONS HAVE SETTLED IN OUR TOWN.
SO WHEN DO THEY LEAVE?
YOU SOUND AWFUL CALM, "MASTER TAOIST."
WE COULD TRASH YOUR TOWN TONIGHT IF WE FELT LIKE IT.
THEY SAID THEY INTEND TO STAY FOR SOME TIME.
.....
WHAT?!
I ASSUME THEY'VE TAKEN A LIKING TO US.

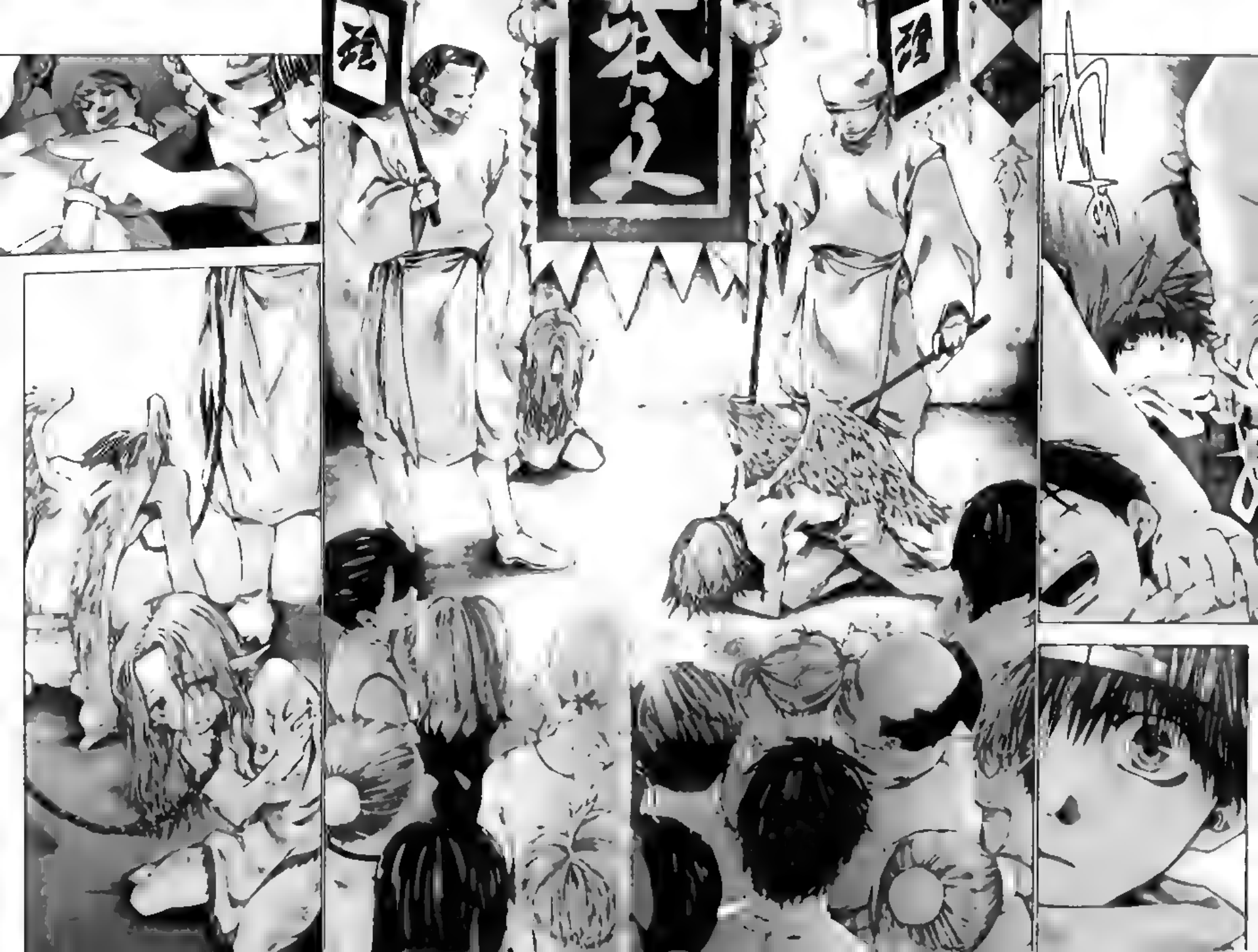
ALLOW ME TO MAKE ONE THING VERY CLEAR.
IF YOU PLAN TO BREAK OUR CONTRACT, I WILL NO LONGER SEND PERIODIC FOOD OR FINANCIAL AID.
YOU WANNA PLAY ROUGH?
THEN LET'S MAKE A DEAL.

HAND 'EM OVER AS A SACRIFICE.
IF YOU CAN DO THAT, THEN OUR AGREEMENT'S STILL GOOD.
THERE'S A BOUNTY ON THEIR HEADS, AND THEY SAY THAT IF YOU EAT A SANZO, YOU CAN STAY YOUNG FOREVER.

...I'LL DO MY BEST.
YOU DON'T WANT THE TOWN TO KNOW YOUR POWER'S A SHAM, DO YOU?
CAN I HAVE MORE OF THIS ONE?
AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE, SIR.
THAT'S GOOD SHIT!
YOU SURE CAN DRINK, TEE HEE!
ER.. NO THANK YOU.
AND YOU, SIR--HAVE A DRINK!

I-I SEE.
I'VE ALREADY HAD A FEW.
KICKASS BASH YOU'VE GOT HERE.
WE LIKE TO THINK SO.
DAYS WITH SEVENS ARE ANNIVERSARIES OF WHEN MASTER SOUSHIN SAVED OUR TOWN.
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE CELEBRATING?

WE'RE REALLY BLESSED TO LIVE HERE.
YEAH. SO JUST THINK WHAT IT'D BE LIKE IF ALL THE YOUKAI WERE WIPED OUT!
Ha Ha!
AMEN TO THAT.
...GOKU, GOJYO.
WE NEED TO GET BACK SOON.
WHA? ALREADY?!
IF SANZO'S IN A BAD MOOD, I'LL ALSO HAVE TO SUFFER.
YEAH, YEAH.
HUH?
WHAT'S WITH TH' CROWD?



WHA...
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?
BEHOLD!
THESE ARE RARE YOUKAI CHILDREN I CAPTURED IN THE MOUNTAINS.
LOOK AT THE BEAUTIFUL WINGS ON THIS ONE!
THEY'RE FLESH AND BLOOD, I GUARANTEE.
LET'S GO, BOY-- FLY FOR THE NICE PEOPLE!
THESE SICK MOTHER--
FLY!
FLY!

GOKU?
NN...
...NNGH.
MMPH.
HEY, MONKEY!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?!
...!!!
M-MY...
...HEAD...
WH...

HGCK

FLY!

FLY!

THEY'RE LATE.
HELL
HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO DICK AROUND?
CHEEP...

YEAH?
KNOCK
KNOCK
EXCUSE ME, LORD SANZO.
MAY I HAVE A MOMENT?
IT'S EXTREMELY LATE.
I'M SORRY, SIR.

BUT IT SEEMS THAT YOUR COMPANIONS SUDDENLY COLLAPSED IN THE STREET.
WE'RE NOT SURE WHAT HAPPENED.
.....
SAY THAT AGAIN?
THIS WAY, PLEASE!
HEY
THIS DOESN'T LOOK FAMILIAR.

SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE.

THERE IS SOMETHING I NEEDED TO DISCUSS

PRIEST GENJYO

I REQUIRE YOUR ASSISTANCE.
FOR THE SAKE OF THIS TOWN.
THAT, CONSE-QUENTLY...
...WILL MOST CERTAINLY AID THE TOWN.
...OR, MORE ACCURATELY, FOR *YOUR* SAKE, I'M GUESSING.

WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.

act.24 Even a worm-II

EASY THERE, SANZO A BULLET COULD RICOCHET IN THIS PLACE AND KILL YOU.
NOW BE A GOOD BOY AND-
AND YOUR LIFE, WHILE WE'RE AT IT!
WE'RE TAKING YOUR SUTRA.

?!
HE KILLED THE LIGHTS!
FIND HIM, YOU IDIOTS!

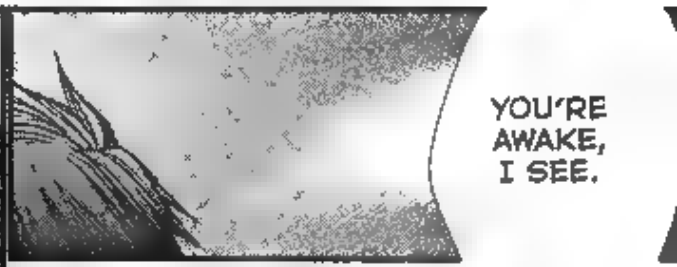
HAGH!
GUH!
DAMMIT
WHERE DID HE GO?

NNL.
HE'S TRYING TO RUN!
GET HIM!
HUH?

WAKE UP!
GOJYO! HAKKAI!
HAKKAI!

WHERE ARE WE?
WE...?
WHAT THE...

I REMEMBER YOU.
WOW.
THEY'VE GOT US, I'LL GIVE THEM THAT.
WHAT'S TH' BIG IDEA?!

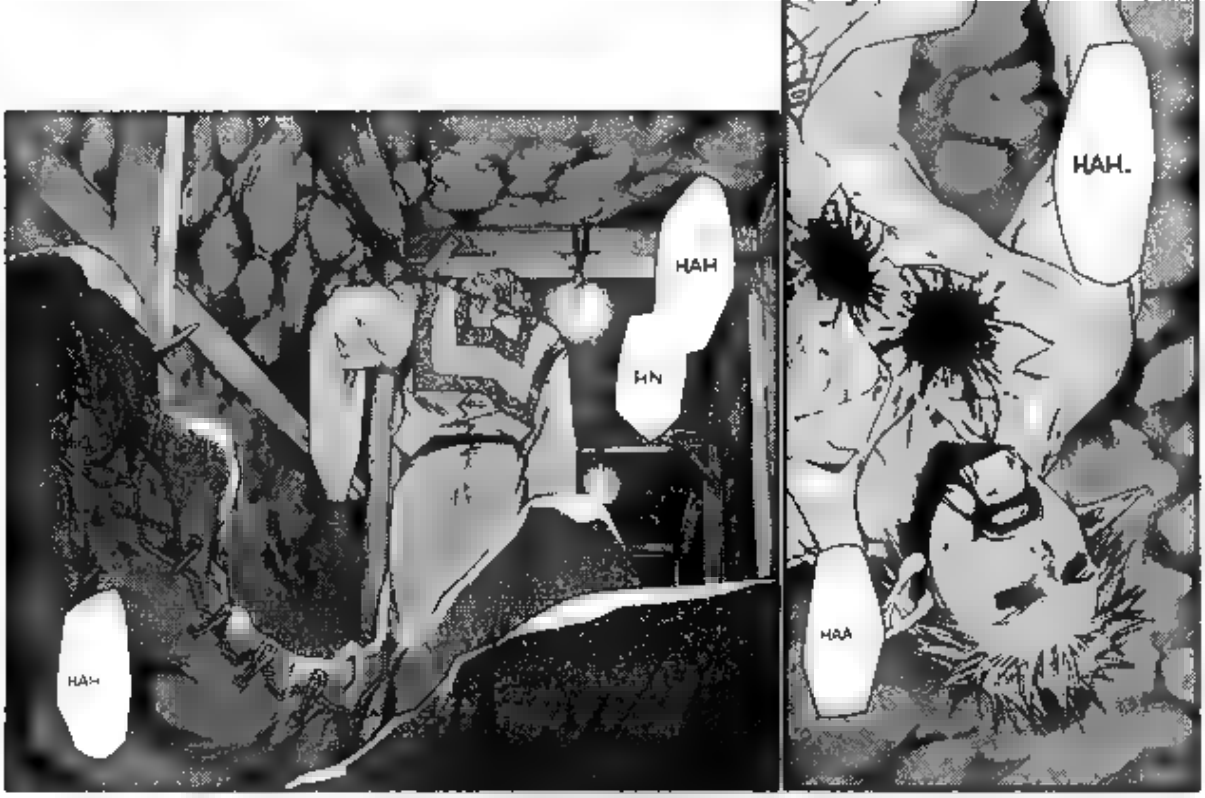

YOU'RE AWAKE, I SEE.

I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE OUT A BIT LONGER.

I'M MOST CERTAINLY NOT.
...YOU'RE A YOUKAI?
EVEN THE FAMOUS SANZO COMPANY LET THEIR GUARD DOWN WHEN THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE DEALING WITH HUMANS.
I THINK I SEE NOW.
WE SHOULD HAVE CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY OF A HUMAN-YOUKAI CONSPIRACY.
WHAT?!
THE HUMANS PROBABLY HAVE SOME SORT OF PACT WITH THE YOUKAI.
THEY MAY PAY FOR THEIR SAFETY, OR SOMETHING ALONG THOSE LINES.
SO TODAY, *YOU* ARE THE PAYMENT.
YOU'RE ALL VERY VALUABLE.
SO THAT TAOIST FUCKER REALLY WAS FULL OF SHIT.
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR US?

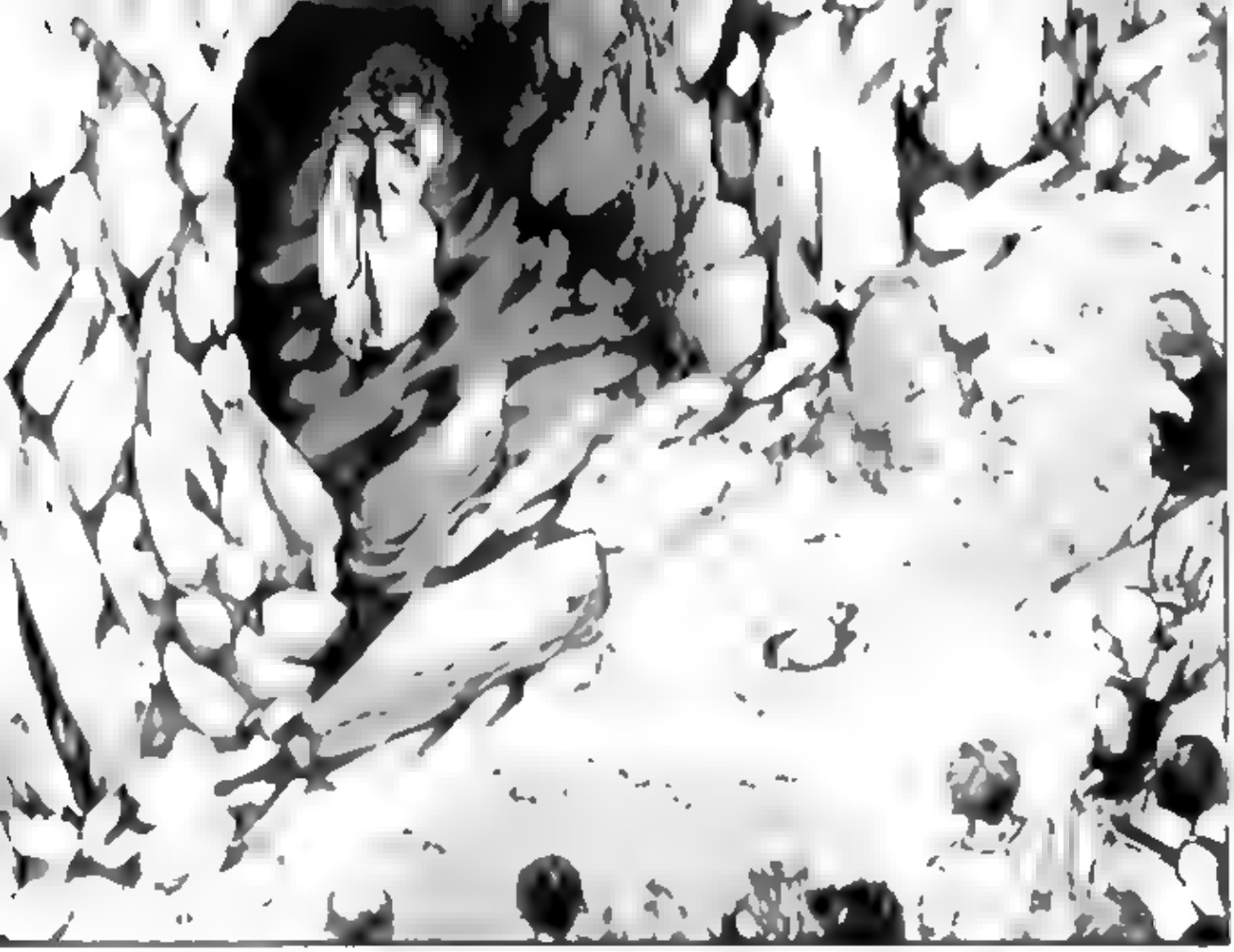
DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT THAT.
YOU'LL SOON FOLLOW YOUR MASTER.
HUH?
WHERE'S SANZO? HE'S NOT HERE!
SANZO...
WHA?!
HEY, MISTER!
WHAT'D YOU DO TO SANZO?! C'MON, ANSWER ME!
WE'RE IN QUITE A BIT OF TROUBLE
YUKATA!!
YOU DON'T REALLY THINK SANZO'S DEAD, DO YOU?
OUR SANZO? THE ONE WE ALL KNOW AND HATE?
SANZO'D NEVER DIE FROM SOMETHIN' THIS STUPID!

AAGH!
THESE FREAKIN' BARS WON'T BUDGE!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE.
WE CAN'T SAY FOR SURE, BUT HE'S PROBABLY AT LEAST IN YOUKAI HANDS BY NOW.
MAYBE IF YOU KEEP SHAKING THEM.
BOTH OF YOU.
PLEASE STEP ASIDE.


HAH
HN
HAH
HAH.
HAA

I GUESS THE TRAPDOOR
LEADS OUT OF TOWN.

!
DAMMIT



OW!
AAGH!
THERE'S NO POSSIBLE WAY I CAN MAKE A ONE LINER OFF OF THAT
I THOUGHT SOMETHING LIKE THIS MIGHT HAPPEN- I WAS RIGHT TO TAKE THAT CORRESPONDENCE COURSE IN LOCK PICKING
THE SACRIFICES ARE ESCAPING!
DON'T LET THEM OUTSIDE!

WHICH WAY?
MOVE IT, POOP-HEAD!
LET'S TRY THIS ONE!

HUH?

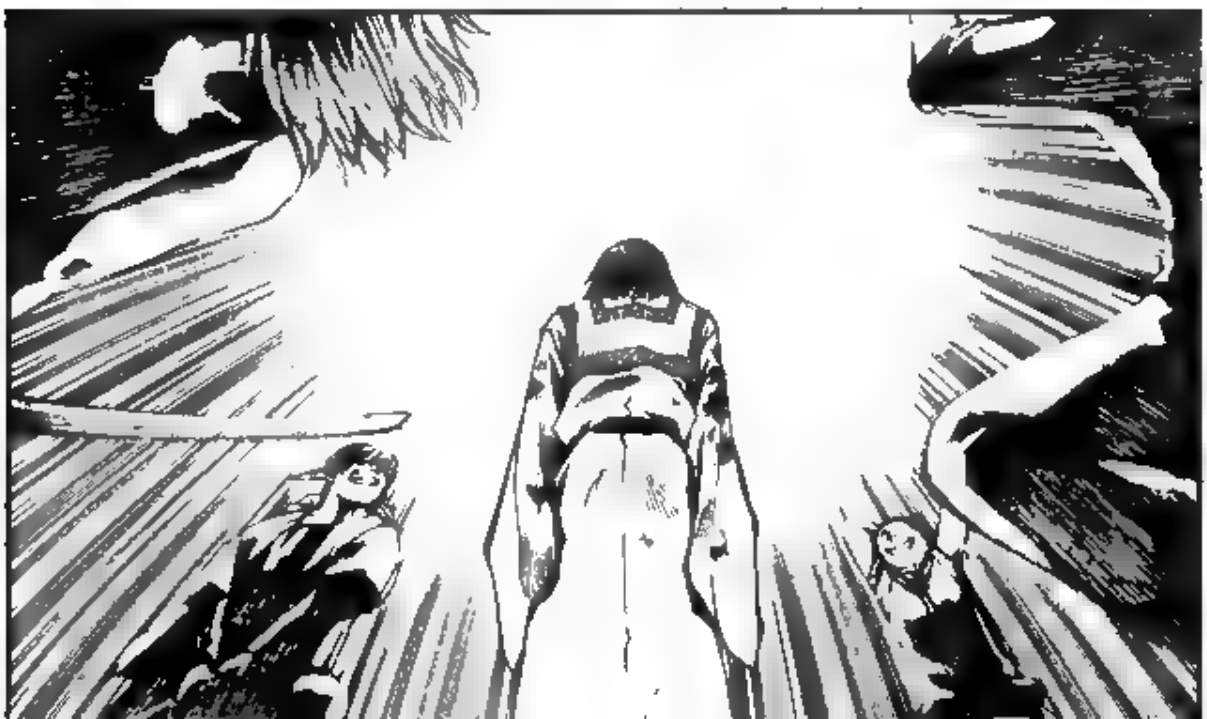
IT WON'T DO US ANY GOOD TO SEARCH FOR SANZO WITHOUT A LEAD.
I SAY WE GRAB THE TAOIST. HE'S A QUACK, BUT HE'S STILL--
RIGHT HERE. THAT IS, IF YOU'RE SPEAKING OF ME.

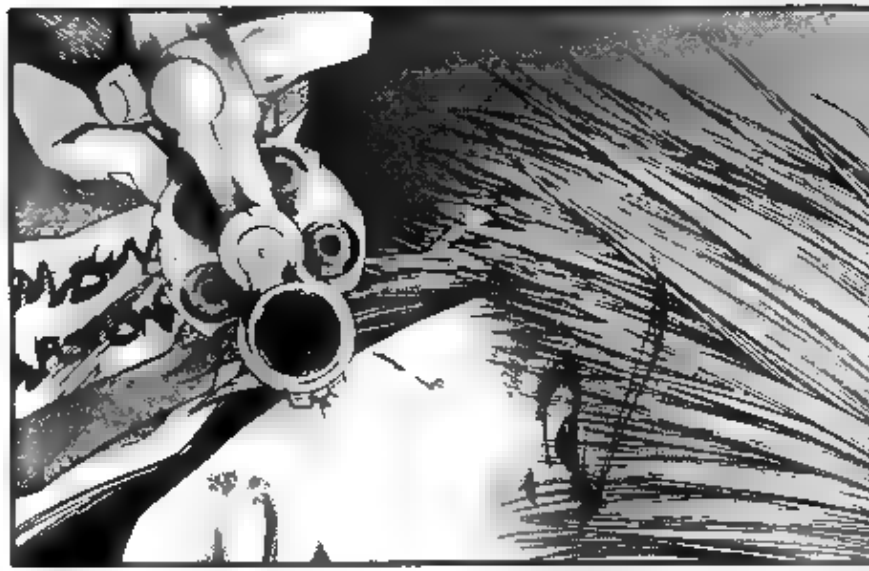
act.25
Even a worm-12.
THAT WAY
DON'T LOSE HIM!
—!

THIS IS FAMILIAR
SHIT.

SLASH
HACK!

SAY YOUR PRAYERS, PRIEST!
FIVE OF THEM.
AND I'M DOWN TO FOUR SHOTS.
YOU'RE PRETTY TOUGH FOR A HUMAN.
THAT'S BUD-DHISM'S BEST FOR YOU.
...BUT THINGS ARE DIFFERENT THIS TIME AROUND.


WHAT IS HERE NOW...



...IS DEFINITELY NOT WHAT I WAS THEN.

TWICE

TAT
AGCK!
YOU SON OF A--

I PLAN ON LIVING.

"ASS."
WE KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO, PISS LICKER!
YOU'RE IN CAHOOTS WITH TH' YOUKAI!
I CAN'T BEGIN TO FATHOM WHAT YOU'RE ATTEMPTING TO SAY.
ALL RIGHT.
WHY NOT TRY CAPTURING US WITH THE SPELLS YOU KNOW SO WELL?
THAT SHOULD BE EASY, MASTER TAOIST.
.....
I'VE BEEN PIECING THIS TOGETHER.
ASIDE FROM THE TOWN'S WEALTH, YOU'VE CAUGHT TRAVELERS LIKE US AND SACRIFICED THEM TO THE YOUKAI.
THAT WOULD FUNCTION AS A PEACE PACT.

A TOWN OF THIS SIZE NEEDS A LEADER TO UNIFY IT.
I FAIL TO SEE THE PROBLEM.
YOU'VE BEEN KILLIN' PEOPLE THAT DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOIN' ON?!
THAT'S NOT PEACEFUL, YA SHITHEAD!
YOU'VE SEEN THE INHABITANTS.
AS LONG AS WE HAVE PEACE, THEY DON'T MIND HOW IT'S BEING KEPT.
EVERY-THING I DO IS FOR THE SURVIVAL OF THIS TOWN.
IT'S A POLITICAL DECISION.
THE KIND OF POLITICS WHERE YOU LIE ABOUT YOUR POWERS SO YOU CAN JERK OFF IN A FANCY HOUSE.
POLITICAL. I'LL SAY.
Ha!

THE MASSES ARE APT TO BE FOOLS.
YOU DON'T THINK MUCH OF THEM, DO YOU?

TO LOOK FOR SANZO.
WE'RE NOT GETTIN' ANYWHERE TALKIN' TO THIS GUY.

HEY.
WHERE'RE YOU GOING, GOKU?

I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT.

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T JUST LET YOU LEAVE.

NYOI-BOU!
UGH!
HAGH!

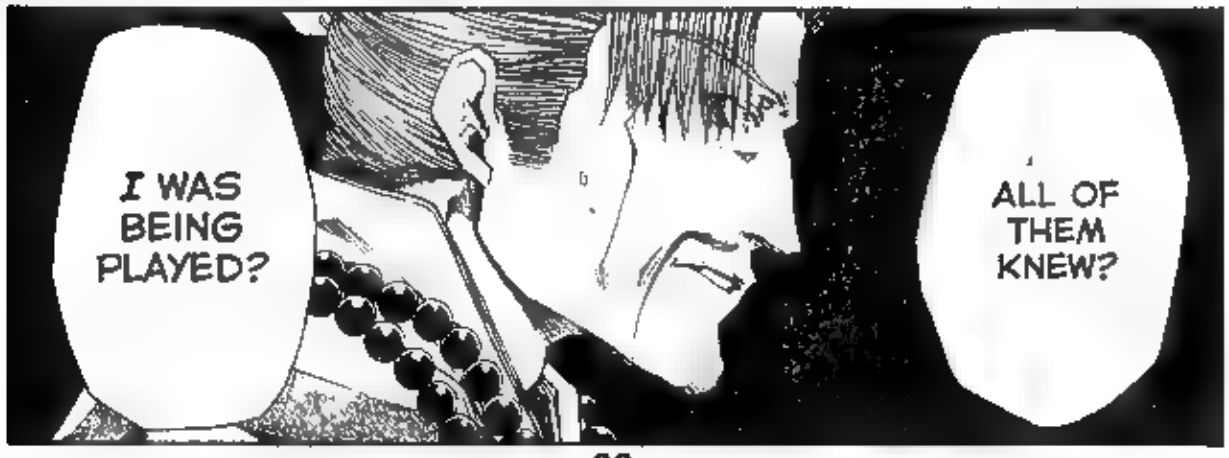
BMPH!
STOP RIGHT THERE!
HEY! GOJYO!
WHAT'RE YA STOPPIN' F--

I'LL BE DAMNED.

act.26 Even a worm-13

WE NEED YOU TO CONTINUE TO LEAD US, MASTER TAOIST.
OUR TOWN IS IN YOUR HANDS.
YOU COULDN'T HAVE...
THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE.
YOU BROUGHT PEACE TO OUR TOWN BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY.
WE'RE GRATEFUL TO YOU, ELDER.

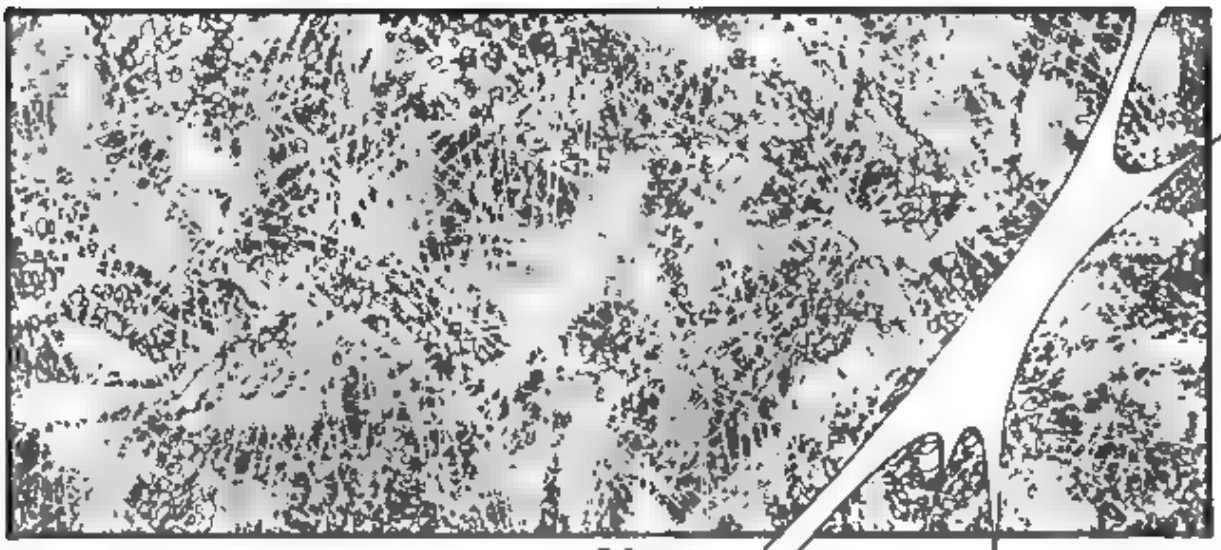
...AREN'T AS IGNORANT AS YOU THOUGHT.
IT SEEMS THAT THE MASSES..

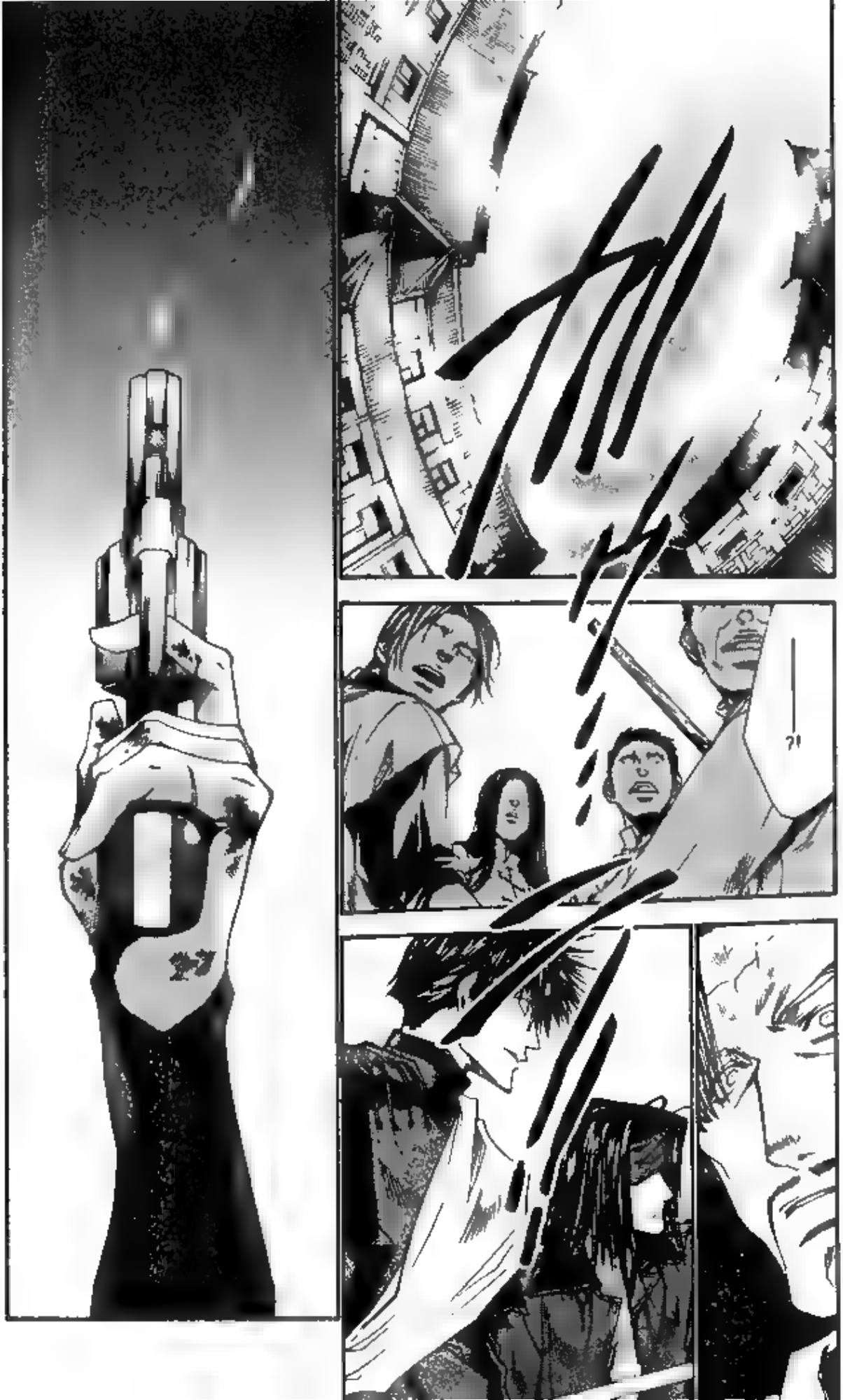

I WAS BEING PLAYED?
ALL OF THEM KNEW?

DOES THAT MEAN THE ENTIRE TOWN LOOKED THE OTHER WAY WITH THE HUMAN SACRIFICES?
shit.
THAT'S FRICKIN' INCREDIBLE.
WE HAVE THINGS WE NEED TO PROTECT.
EVEN IF OUR PEACE IS BUILT ON THE LOSS OF A FEW...
IT'S A NECESSARY EVIL. IS IT A CRIME TO WANT TO LIVE?
YA REALLY THINK THAT'S OKAY?!
WE DON'T CARE IF YOU JUDGE US.
THIS IS THE PATH WE'VE CHOSEN.

BELIEVE ME.
...I DO UNDER-STAND YOUR POINT.
BUT YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES WITH SOME-THING TO PROTECT.
//

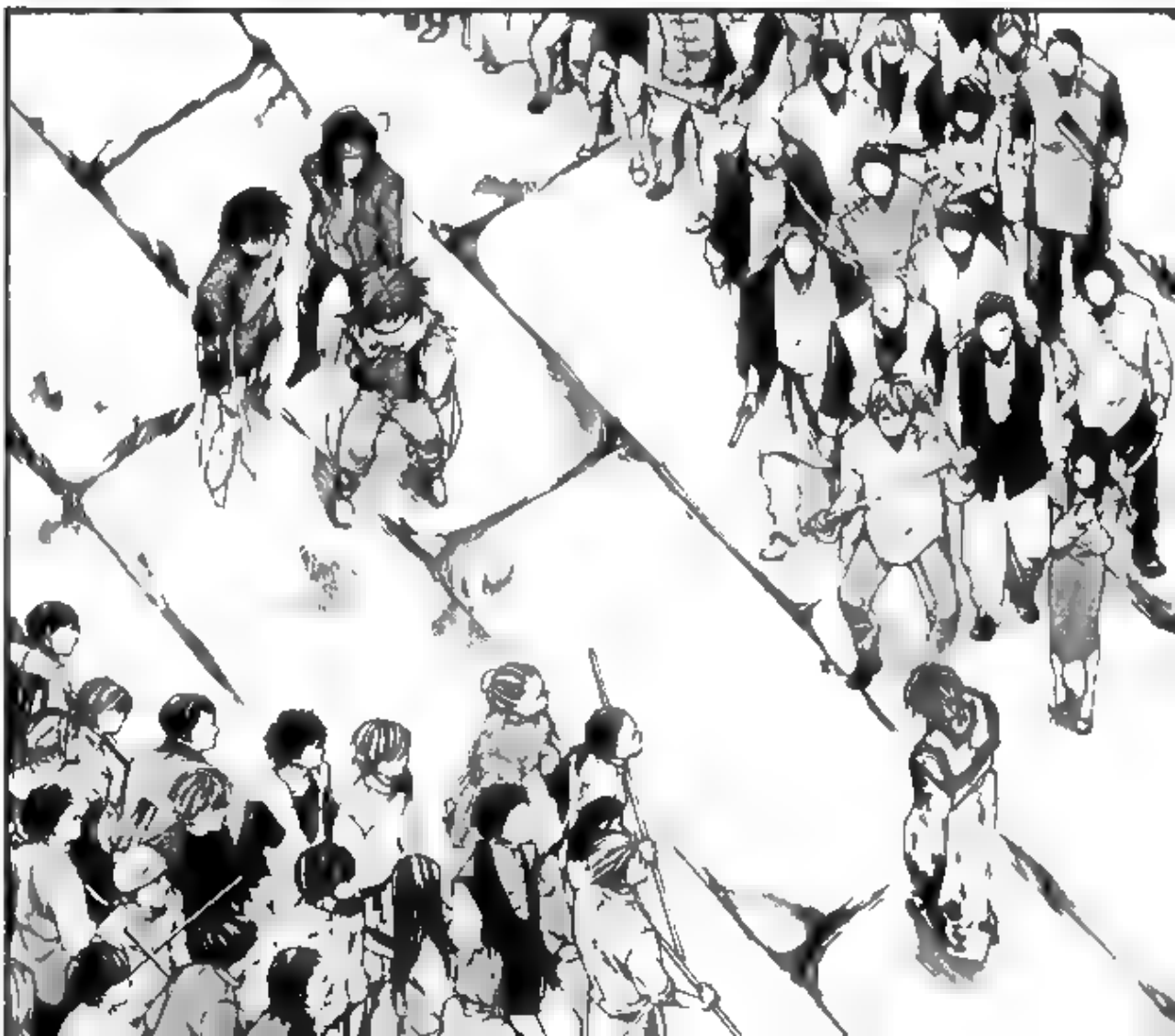
WE'RE NOT GONNA GO EASY IF YA FIGHT US.
I HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU SHITHEADS, BUT WE'RE NOT EXACTLY MARTYRS.
IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE.
I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE YOUKAI OR HUMAN.





P--
PRIEST SANZO!
SANZO?!
.....!!

MOVE.



HEY!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU ALL? SEIZE HIM!
IF WE OFFER HIM NOW, IT MIGHT NOT BE TOO LATE!
WHY ISN'T ANYONE MOVING?!

!!
T&H
IT'S DEFINITELY DIFFERENT...
...FROM WHEN I WAS A KID.
HUH?
IT CAN'T BE.
HE SHOULDN'T BE ALIVE!

THAT WAS A WASTE OF YOUR DAMN TIME. I'M GOING TO OUTLIVE YOU ALL
...AND DIE WITH MY PRIDE INTACT.
DON'T LIE TO YOUR-SELF.
NO HUMAN CAN BE THAT STRONG.
MAYBE WE'RE FUCKED.
YOU COULD BE RIGHT.

BUT THIS IS OUR PATH.

IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE SAYIN' THAT AS LONG AS THE SEITEN TAISEI'S ALIVE, SHANGRI-LA CAN'T HAVE PEACE.

YOU MIND CLARIFYIN' THAT?
太子楼
酒家

I GUESS THAT'D BE ONE WAY TO PUT IT.

PEOPLE SAY HE'S HIDING IN THE CARE OF A SANZO PRIEST.

THERE'S A RUMOR ABOUT THAT.
SO WHERE IS THIS SAGE?

IF THE CALAMITY HIT THE SAGE AND HE LOST ALL CONTROL...
I THINK IT'S OBVIOUS THAT THE YOUKAI RAMPAGE IS SPREADING FAR AND FAST.
HE'S ...
...EVEN A SANZO PRIEST, A POWERFUL ONE, WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE.
YOU MENTIONED SOMETHIN' EALIER
YOU SAID THE BEAST'S GOT GOLDEN EYES.

REALLY.
HM?
MR. UKOKU.
THERE'S SOMETHIN' I WANNA LOOK INTO.
THEN I GUESS YOU'D BETTER GO.

IF THAT'S THE PATH YOU CHOOSE.

act.27
Even a worm-14

URGH
IS THAT A YOUKAI?
WEIRD.
W-WATER...
GIVE ME... WATER!
WEL-COME BACK, GOJYO.
I HOPE YOU FOUND WATER.
YOU MEAN GOKU'S STILL GONE?
HUH?

...SO YOU LOST HIM.
WE FOUND SOME WATER AND WERE ON OUR WAY BACK WHEN HE UP AND TOOK OFF. HE WAS YAMMERING ABOUT SMELLING FRUIT OR SOME SHIT.
OH BOY.
WE CAN'T LEAVE ONCE THE SUN SETS.

HE'S NOT AN INFANT HE'LL MAKE HIS WAY BACK EVENTUALLY.
I DON'T THINK AN ADULT WOULD CHASE FRUIT INTO OBLIVION.
WHAT, SO HE'S A MAN NOW?

MM...I DIDN'T REALIZE WE WERE NEAR FRUIT.
I'M DIS-APPOINTED IN MYSELF
DO YA LIKE IT?

.....
AN' YA MISSED TH' STREAM. TH' ONE RIGHT HERE.

THE FOREST LURED ME INTO ITS TANGLED, VILE CLUTCHES.
I DID NOT FALL DOWN ON THE ROAD AND START DYING.
SO WHY'D YA FALL DOWN ON TH' ROAD AN' START DYIN'?

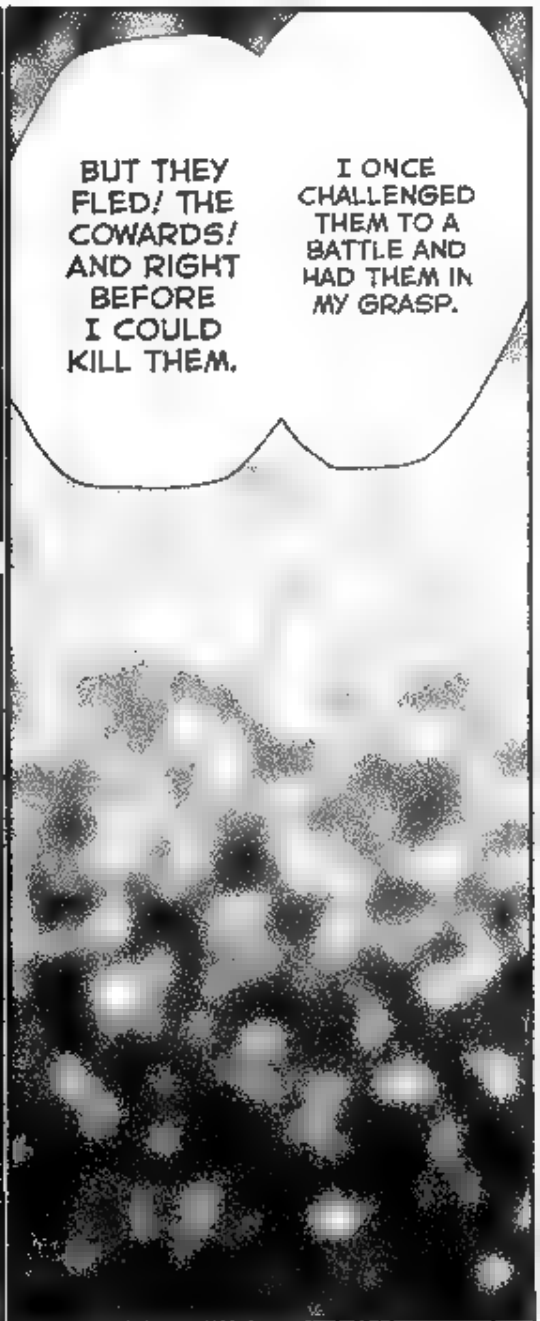
COME TO THINK OF IT...
YA SAID YOU WERE LOOKIN' FOR SOMEONE, RIGHT? WHO'RE YA LOOKIN' FOR?
YOU HAVE MY THANKS, BOY. YOUR HELP IS APPRECIATED.
THAT'S... ANOTHER WAY TO SAY IT, YES.
SO YA GOT LOST.

YOU COULD CALL US "OLD ENEMIES."
HMPH.

THE MOMENT I FIND THEM, THEY'LL FEEL MY PENT-UP WRATH!
A GROUP OF MURDEROUS SCOUNDRELS HAVE BEEN KILLING MY KINSMEN.

SO THEY'RE BAD GUYS?
THE WORST OF GUYS.

I'M SURE THEY FEARED MY POWER.
WOW. YOU MUST BE REALLY BADASS!


I ONCE CHALLENGED THEM TO A BATTLE AND HAD THEM IN MY GRASP.
BUT THEY FLED! THE COWARDS! AND RIGHT BEFORE I COULD KILL THEM.

HEH. INDEED.
I'M SOMEWHAT WELL-KNOWN AS THE MIGHTY ILLUSIONIST ZAKURO.
"ZAKURO" ...?
.....

AH HA HA HA HA HA HA!!
MWA HA HA HA!
YOU'RE AN AMUSING ONE, BOY!
BIO3-
LIKE "SALMON ROE"! YOUR NAME SOUNDS YUMMY!
WHAT WAS YOUR NAME?
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?
I'M GO-
IT LOOKS LIKE A TRES-PASSER PARTY.

A YOUKAI AND A HUMAN KID, HUH?
YOU DON'T SEE THAT EVERY DAY.
WE WEREN'T DOIN' NOTHIN'.

I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU AROUND, YOUKAI. YOU AN OUTSIDER?
THIS FOREST IS *OUR* TURF.
YOU'D BETTER MOVE YOUR ASS.

EXCUSE ME?
UNLESS YOU WANT IT TA GET KICKED.
Heh heh
WAIT-- HOLD UP.

!!
I BET HE TASTES REAL NICE.
AND YOU HAVE TO LEAVE THE KID.
BUT IF YA TRY AN' EAT ME--
NOBODY LIKES TO EAT MORE'N I DO, ASSFACE.

UH... ZAKURO?
RUN, MY GOOD LAD.
I OWE YOU MY LIFE. LET ME REPAY THAT DEBT NOW.
YOU FOOLS WILL PAY FOR THE HUBRIS OF ATTACKING THE GREAT ZAKURO.
TELL ME THIS...
"DO YOU HAVE THE COURAGE TO LOOK INTO MY EYES?"
WHA...
HUH?

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO
AGH!
WHAT THE HELL?!
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?!

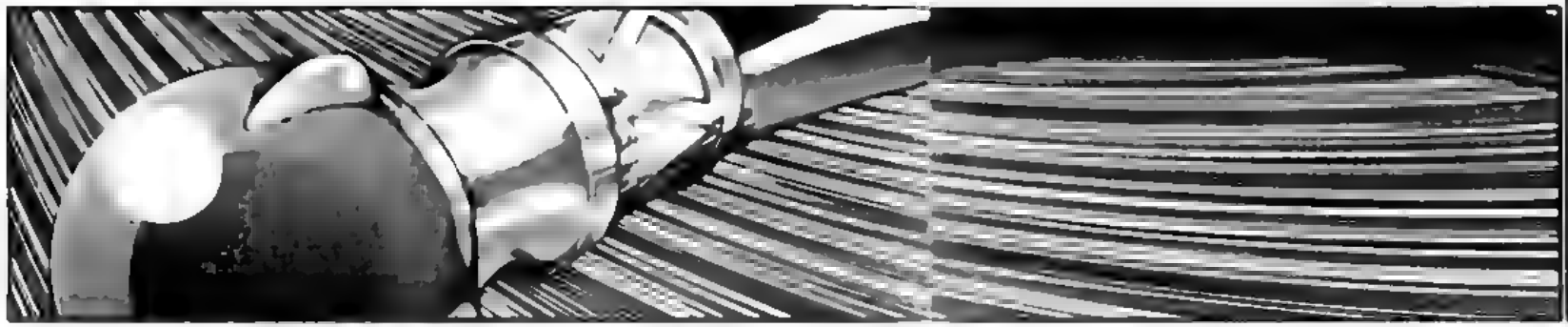
UNLESS YOU DEFEAT ME, YOU'LL NEVER ESCAPE THIS WORLD!
YOU GULLIBLE LITTLE INSECTS!
MWA HA HA HA HA HA!
HOW'D WE GET HERE?!
HE SAID TO BEAT HIM TO GET OUT.
WHO CARES HOW WE GOT HERE?
GROSS! WHERE ARE WE?!
I WAS TALKING TO THEM!
YA SAID TO LOOK INTO YOUR EYES.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

YOU STAND NO CHANCE AGAINST MY POWER.
FOOLS!
ESPECIALLY ARMED WITH *MELTING WEAPONS!*
?!!
H-HEY!
WHAT THE HELL?!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? ALREADY SCARED?
EW, IT'S ALL DROOPY.
PAY ATTENTION TO THE CANDLES.
OOED

THEY COULD CATCH ON YOUR CLOTHES!
IT W-WON'T GO OUT!
...WILL BURN UNTIL YOU'RE ASH.
I'M AFRAID THAT FIRE...
AND THE FLAMES ARE ONLY SPREADING.
GGGH.
AAAAAH!
HELP ME! SOME BODY!
HOTHOTHOTHOTHOT!
IT'S HOOOOOT!
NOT AGAIN! COVER YOUR EARS!

WAIT...
WHAT'D HE JUST SAY?
I THINK HE'S FAKING US OUT!
DON'T LISTEN TO THAT GUY!
THAT COMPLICATES THINGS.
I DUNNO WHAT'S GOIN' ON!
WHAT?! HEY!
COME BACK HERE, BOY!
CAN'T I JUST BEAT 'EM UP?!

IF THAT'S WHAT IT IS...
Y-YOU FIND THAT YOUR WEAPON IS BACK IN YOUR HANDS!
AND THERE'S A WALL IN FRONT OF US!
A PROTECTIVE BARRIER!



"I'LL JUST SMASH IT DOWN!"

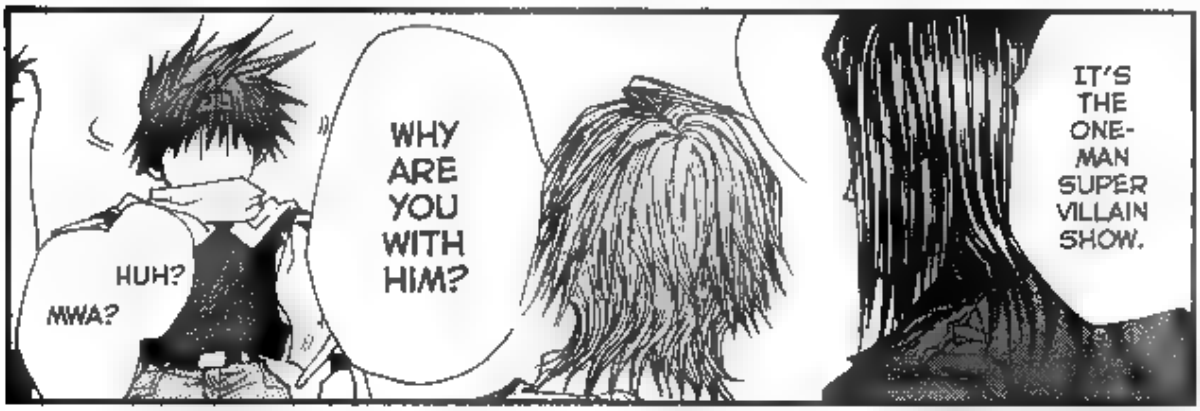
BEWARE!
YOU'VE ALL BEEN SENT FLYING...
GAAAH!

...OVER A CLIFF!
YOU'RE PLUMMETING INTO A DEEP ABYSS!

WAAA

YOU WERE TRYIN' TO HELP ME, RIGHT?
YOU'RE TALENTED, BOY.
THANKS FOR BEFORE.
PARDON?
HEY!
WHERE'VE YOU BEEN, ASS-MONKEY?!
IT'S SANZO AN' TH' GUYS.
WELL, I ONLY DID WHAT WAS NATURAL IN A CASE SUCH AS—
HEEEEY! I'M OVER HERE!

WIPE THAT GODDAMN GRIN OFF YOUR FACE! WHY DIDN'T YOU COME BACK?!
IS EVERY-THING ALL RIGHT?
OH.


IT'S THE ONE-MAN SUPER VILLAIN SHOW.
WHY ARE YOU WITH HIM?
HUH?
NWA?

S-
SANZO! AND H.S INFERNAL COMRADES!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?!
Y-YOU SONS OF BITCHES.
YOU TWO WERE WITH THE SANZO PARTY!

Doesn't care
WHAT-EVER YOU SAY.
WHA—
PLEASE TELL YOUR FRIENDS.
YOU GODDAMN TRAITOR!
WE'LL GET YOU FOR THIS!
THE ESTEEMED MR. ZAKURO HAS COME AND JOINED OUR SIDE.

BUT...
NOT...

I DEMAND THAT YOU COME BACK!

SHIT, THAT WAS FUNNY!
Hee Hee
Hee Hee
.....
WHAT WAS THAT?

act.28 Even a worm 15

OH...OH PRAISE THE LORD!
.....!
WE'VE BEEN CROSSING THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS FOR SO LONG.
I'VE EATEN LIKE CRAP FOR THREE DAYS. TIME TO SCARF!
YUCK-
KEEP IT IN YOUR MOUTH, YA DAMN APE.
ANOTHER BEER.

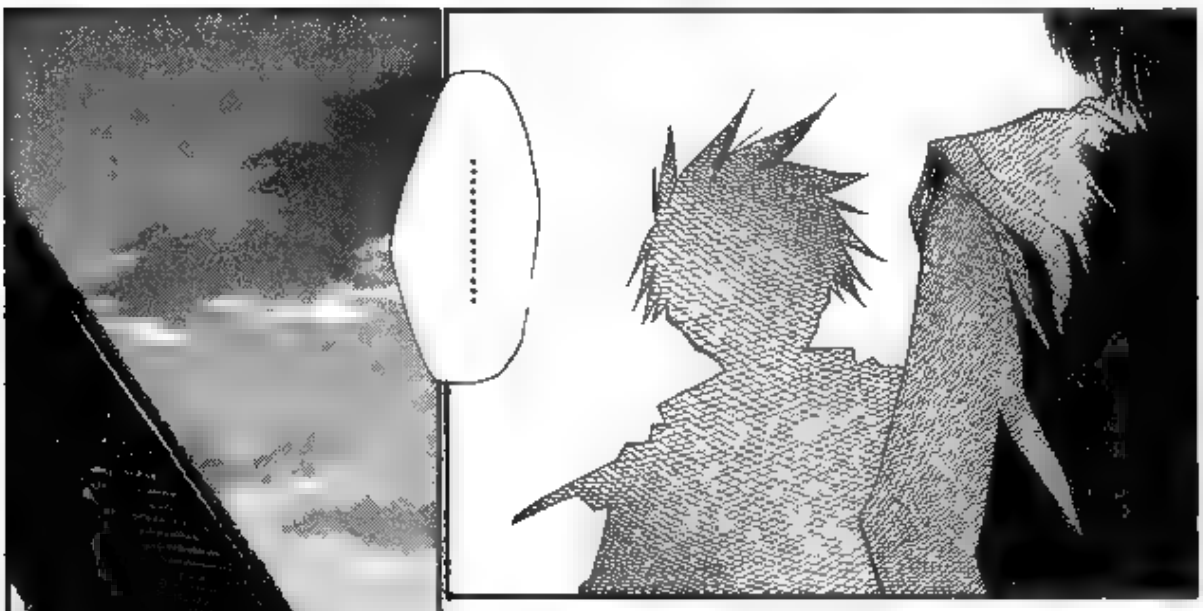
GOING AROUND MIGHT'VE BEEN FASTER.
MAYBE. AND WE WOULDN'T HAVE RUN INTO MR. ZAKURO.
HE WAS SCREAMING SOMETHING NUTS WHEN HE RAN OFF AGAIN.
That guy is comic GOLD
HE'S NOT SUCH A BAD GUY.
DEEP DOWN, I IMAGINE NOT.
WATCH IT!
YIKES.
ACK!
I-I'M SO SORRY!

I'LL CLEAN IT RIGHT AWAY. PLEASE JUST WAIT A MOMENT!
IS ANYONE HURT?
WE'RE ALL FINE.
.....
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY.
IT SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT.
YELLOW EYES AGAIN.
YOU'RE REALLY OUTTA ROOMS?

HEY, LADY.
OF COURSE. WOULD YOU PLEASE SIGN THE REGISTER?
WE'LL TAKE IT.
DO YOU MIND FOUR PEOPLE IN A TWO-PERSON ROOM, SANZO?
IT'S BETTER THAN CAMPING OUT.
WHERE'S TH' BEST PLACE TO EAT AROUND HERE?
YOU REALIZE IT'S NOT MEAL TIME.
YOU CAN FIND IT ON EAST STREET— IT'S REALLY VERY GOOD.
THERE'S A CRAB RESTAURANT NEARBY.
WELL...

GOKU.
HER EYES'RE ALL—
WE'LL TALK ABOUT FOOD LATER.
?
.....
HUH?

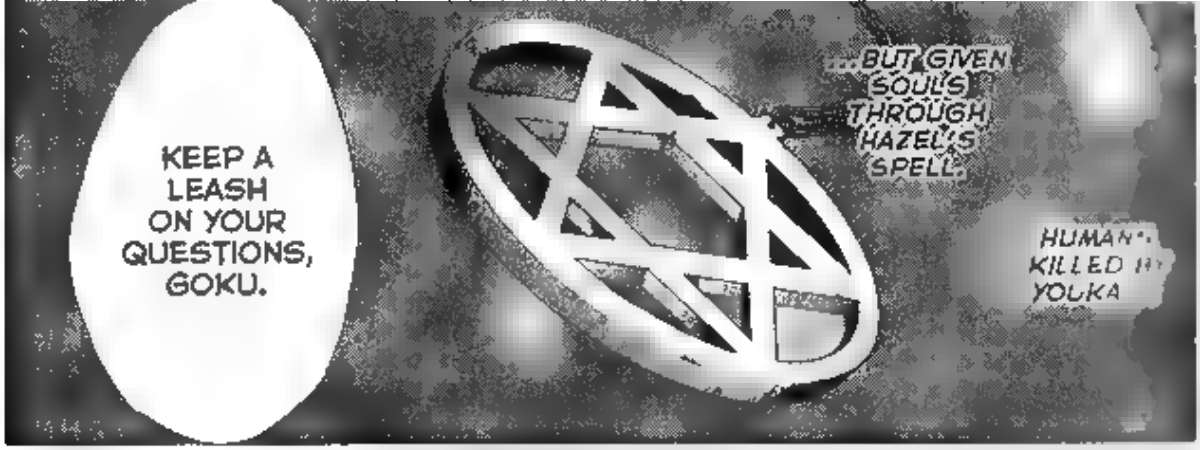
THIS WAY, PLEASE.
THEN I'LL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM.
HUH? OH.
YEAH, OKAY.


.....

MAN.

WE'VE SEEN A HELL OF A LOT OF YELLOW EYES SINCE WE GOT TO THIS TOWN.
THAT'S GOTTA MEAN...

YELLOW EYES ARE A SIGN OF COMING BACK FROM THE DEAD.
THERE WAS PROBABLY A YOUKAI ATTACK.
MR. HAZEL MUST HAVE STOPPED BY THIS SAME TOWN EARLIER.


KEEP A LEASH ON YOUR QUESTIONS, GOKU.
...BUT GIVEN SOULS THROUGH HAZEL'S SPELL.
HUMANS KILLED BY YOUKA

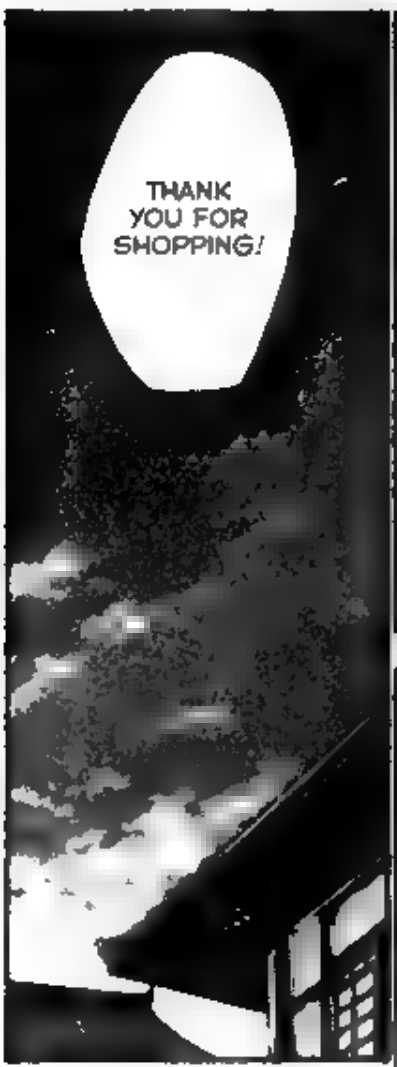
KNOCK KNOCK
YES?
...OH. OKAY.
I'M GUESSING A LOT OF PEOPLE DON'T LIKE REMEMBERING THINGS HERE

THANK YOU, MISS.
THERE ARE TWO HERE-- PLEASE TAKE THEM.
I THOUGHT YOU COULD USE SOME EXTRA BLANKETS.

WERE YOU WONDERING ABOUT MY EYE COLOR?
SHE LOOKS LIKE A NORMAL PERSON.
ACK!
UH, NO!
I WAS JUST...
DIPSHIT
HEH HEH.
THEY'RE UNUSUAL, I KNOW.
I WAS SICK NOT LONG AGO.
DURING MY RECOVERY, MY EYES TURNED INTO THESE.
...I SEE.

BUT I'VE COME TO TAKE PRIDE IN THE COLOR OF MY EYES.
I'M GLAD TO BE ALIVE.
WITH ALL OF MY HEART.
HYA HA HA HA!
WHEE!
SETSUKA, SUI!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO PLAY IN THE HALLS!
YOU'LL BOTHER THE GUESTS!
I'M SORRY THEY'RE SO NOISY.
THEY'RE LOVELY. ARE THEY YOURS?

...WHAT, YOU'VE GOT A HUSBAND AND KIDS?
THEY JUST WON'T SETTLE DOWN.
BUT I'M HAPPY TO WORK AS HARD AS I HAVE TO FOR THEIR SAKE.

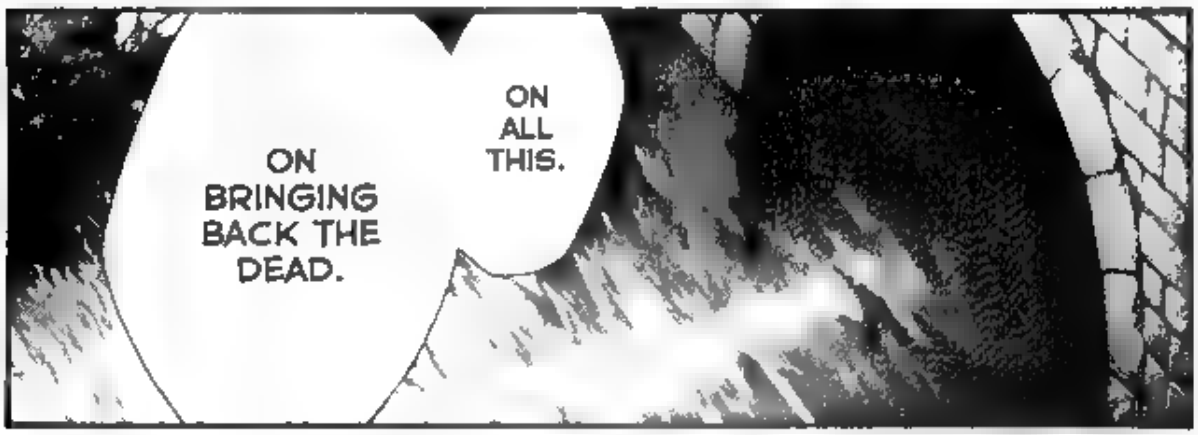

THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING!

THAT MAKES IT HARD TO HIT ON YOU.

OH, MY.
MY GOODNESS!

I WONDER WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN AFTER THIS.
Y'KNOW, TO ALL THE REBORNS.
WHO CAN REALLY KNOW?
I'D RATHER NOT THINK ABOUT IT
IT'S JUST...
WATCHING THEM ALL HAPPY IS REALLY STARTING TO GET TO ME.
NO ONE COULD QUESTION THEIR RIGHT TO LIVE NOW.

I WANNA KNOW YOUR OPINION, HAKKAI.
.....
ON WHAT?


ON ALL THIS.
ON BRINGING BACK THE DEAD.

THAT'S A DIFFICULT ISSUE.
IF I'D BEEN GIVEN THE OPTION AFTER LOSING A LOVED ONE...
...I WOULD HAVE WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN TO BRING HER BACK.
THERE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ROOM FOR A MORAL DEBATE.

Heh
LUCKY?
IN MY CASE, I WAS LUCKY AFTERWARD.
BUT THINGS ARE DIFFERENT NOW.

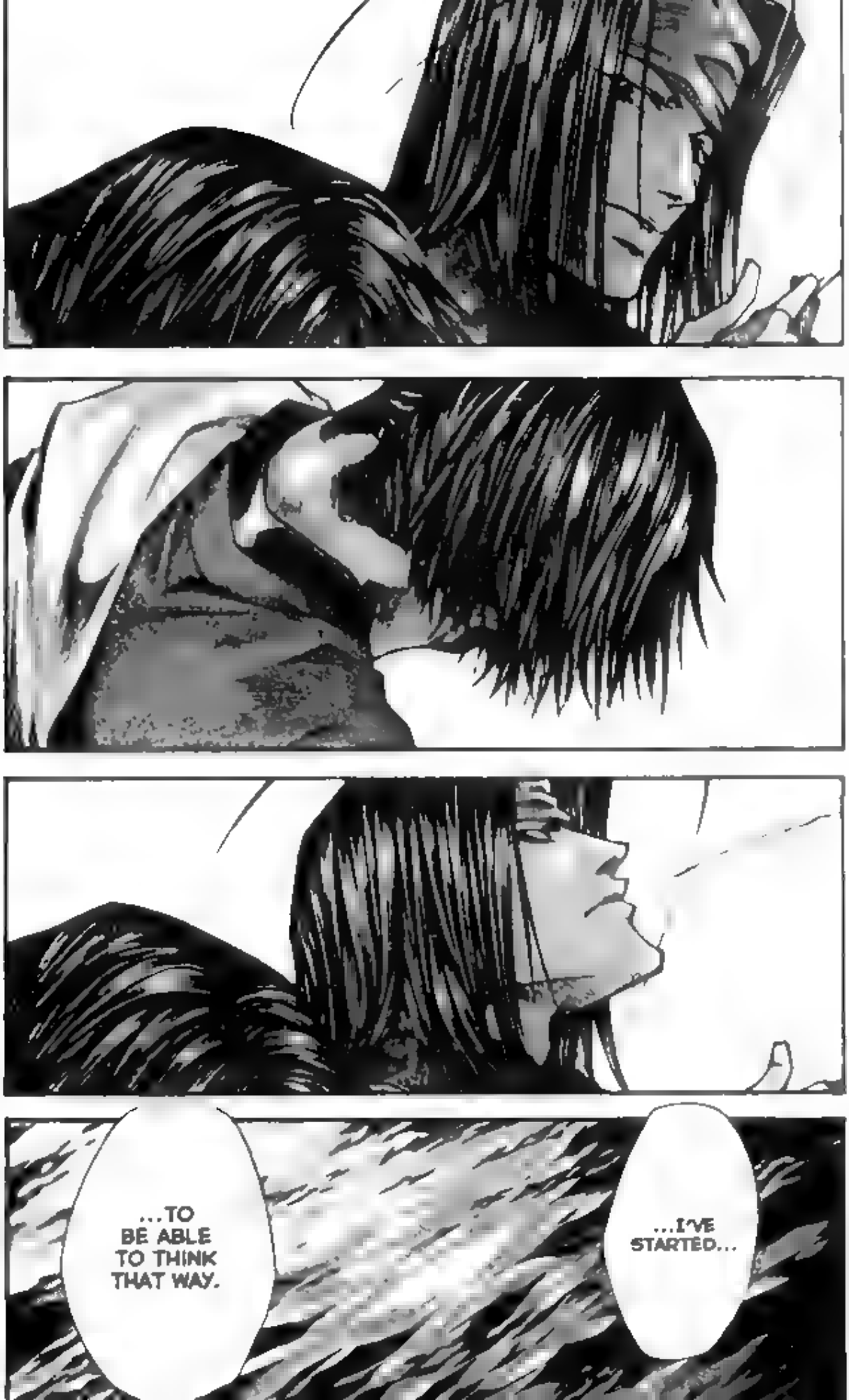
THE NEXT TIME I'M WITH SOMEONE, SHE HAS TO BE INDESTRUCTIBLE.

I'VE MADE A DECIS.ON SINCE THEN.

...WHAT?

UM, Y'KNOW. .
SHE HAS TO HAVE A NICE FIGURE AND A FETCHING PERSONALITY.
SHE'LL BE HAPPY TO HAVE MY CHILDREN, ONE AFTER ANOTHER.

SO YOU WANT A MATRIARCHY
...SHE'LL PUSH ME AROUND WHEN I'M HOME, SAYING, "NOW, FATHER! YOU'RE A NUISANCE!"
AND EVEN IF I SLAVE TO SUPPORT OUR LARGE FAMILY...
I'LL BE A BACHELOR THAT LONG, HUH?
MY ONLY ANXIETY WOULD BE THAT MY LOVELY ADOLESCENT DAUGHTERS MIGHT FALL PREY TO UNCLE GOJYO.


...I'VE STARTED...
...TO BE ABLE TO THINK THAT WAY.

GOJYO
WHAT WILL WE DO IF THINGS JUST STAY LIKE THIS UNTIL WE'RE IN OUR FORTIES?
HOW'D I END UP IN YOUR "WE"?
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT
LET'S SEE THESE HOT DAUGHTERS.

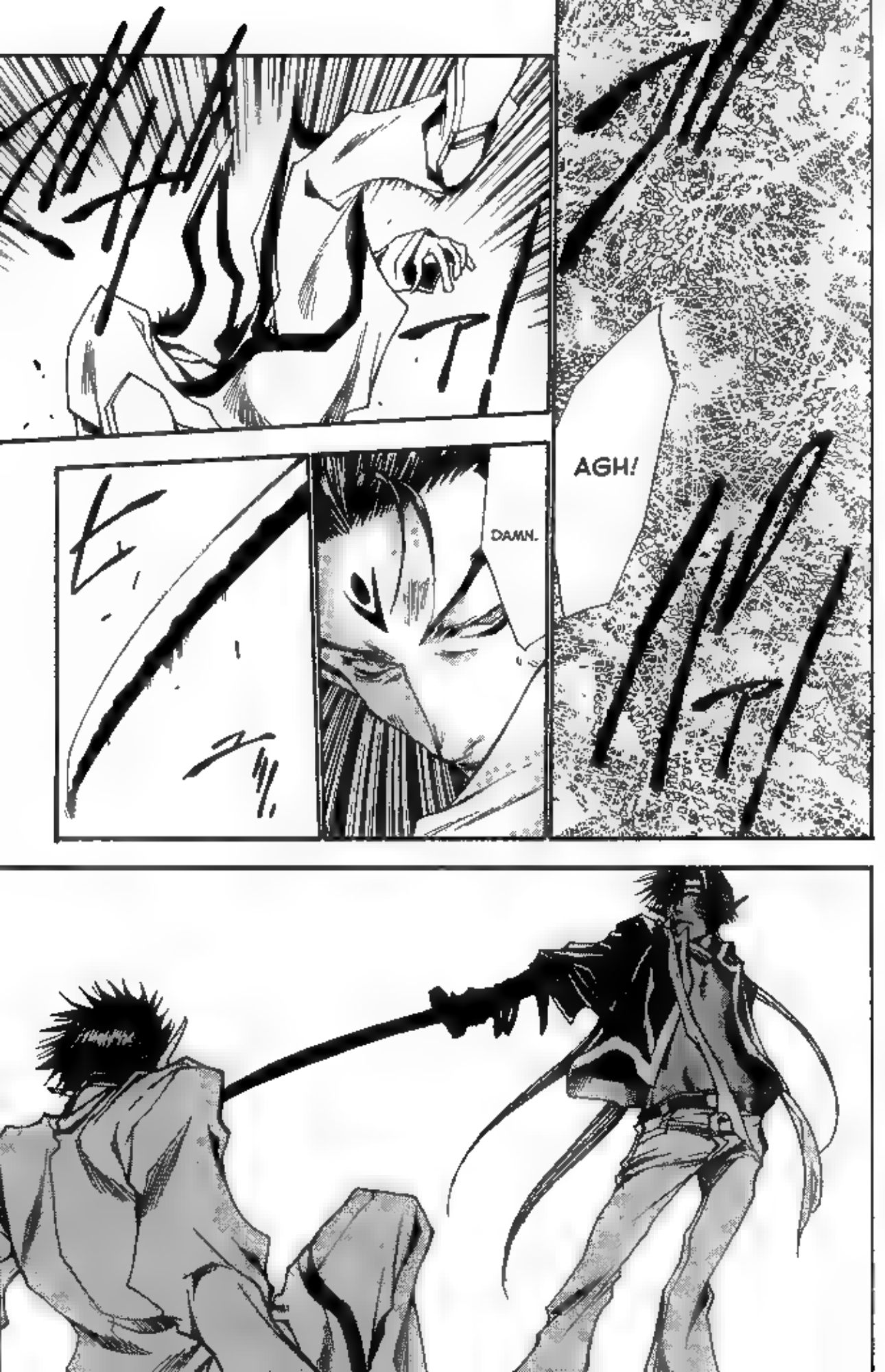
THAT CRAB PLACE KICKED ASS!
SHANGHAI CRAB IS WONDERFUL AT THIS TIME OF YEAR.
Urp
JUST DON'T SHOW ME A RIVER CRAB FOR A WHILE.
MAYBE NEXT TIME YOU'LL EVEN LEARN HOW TO CHEW.
MY, MY.

WELCOME BACK.
Y'ALL CAN'T IGNORE ME ONCE I'VE SEEN YA.

CAW
CAW
act.29
Even a worm-16

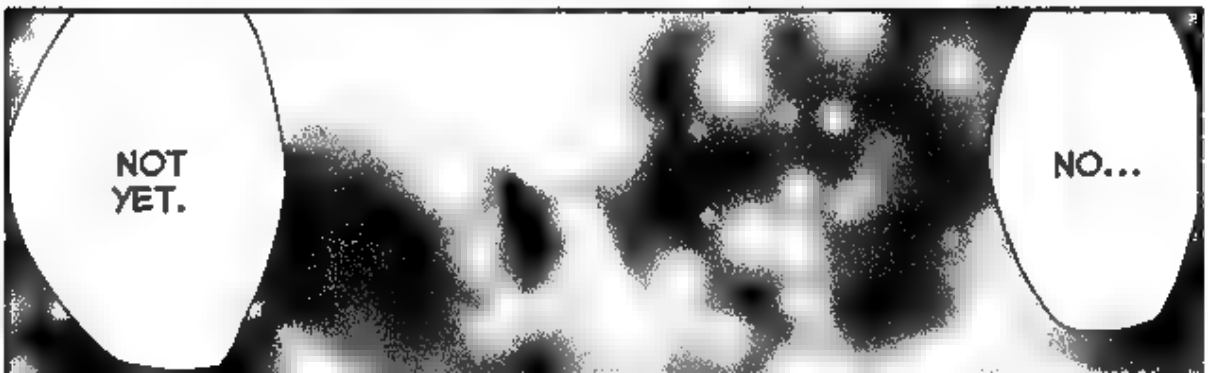
-HAAAARG

!!


AGH!
DAMN.

GAME OVER! WOO!
ONII-CHAN WINS!

Ow.
LOOKS LIKE SKINNY'S GOT HIS GROOVE BACK.
ARE YOU OKAY?
AND I THINK YOU'VE GOTTEN QUICKER.

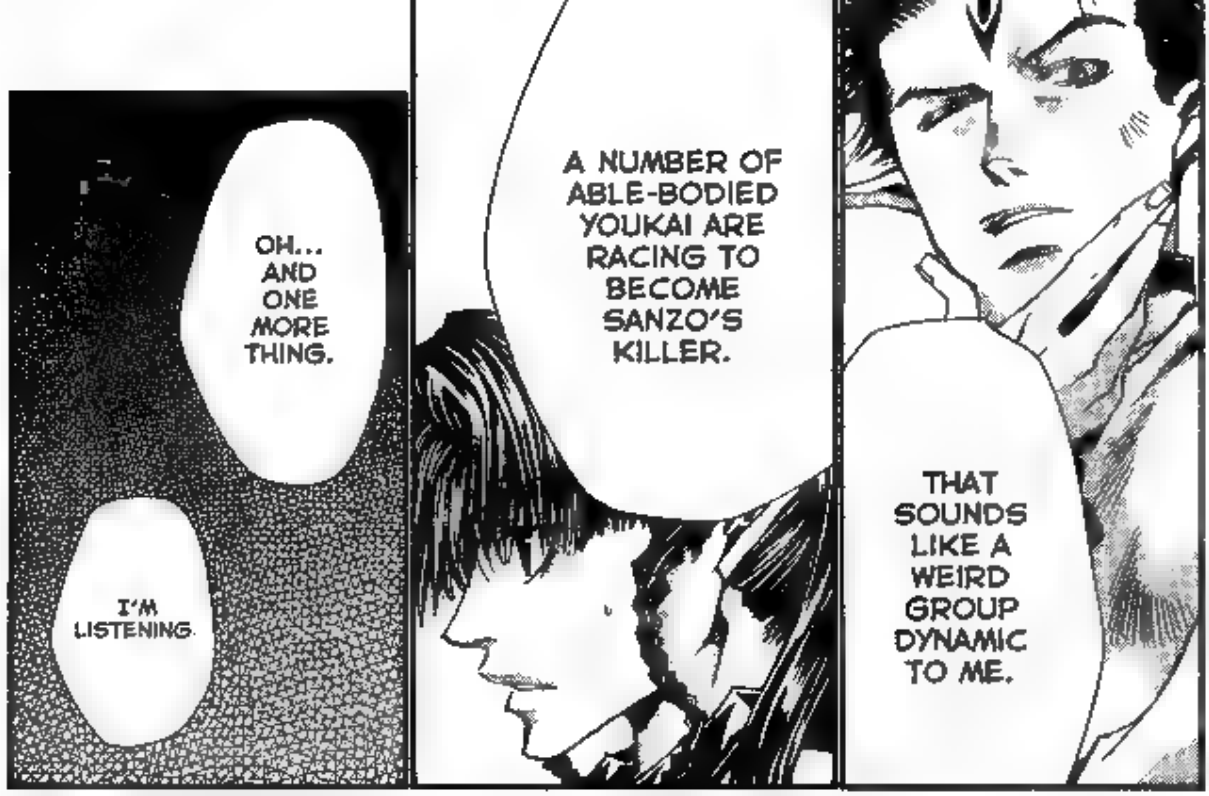

NO...
NOT YET.

I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH YET.
I CAN'T BEAT SANZO THE WAY I AM NOW.
I HAVE TO GET STRONGER.
THE NEXT TIME WE SEE THEM, I *WILL* TAKE THEM DOWN.
.....
YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUSH IT, KOU.
...YEAH.
LET'S DO THAT.
LET'S TAKE THIS ONE STEP AT A TIME.
GYOKUMEN KOUSHU'S BARELY TALKED TO US SINCE THE LAST THING.
WE'VE GOT A BREAK FOR A CHANGE.

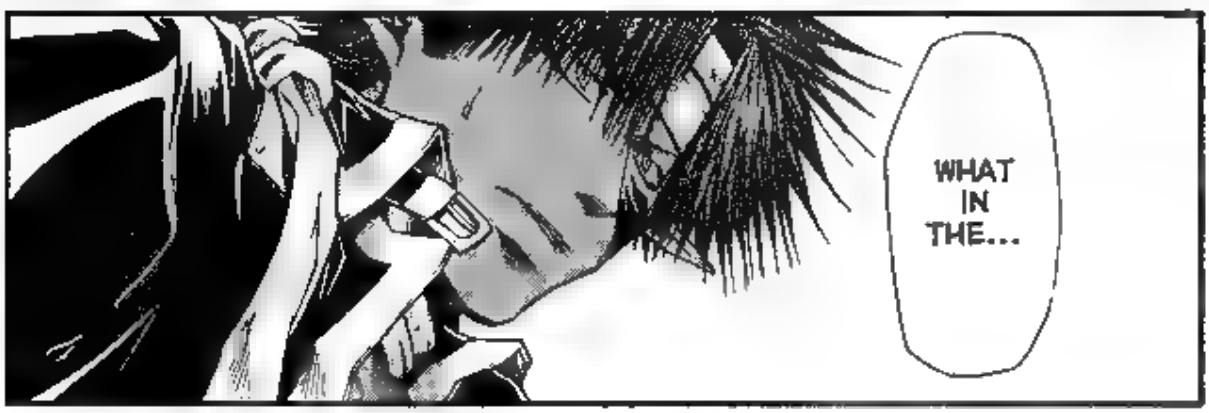
SHE'S A KID. DON'T LET HER GET TO YOU.
.....
MAYBE THEY'LL GET HERE BY THE TIME YOU'RE DONE, ONII-CHAN!
Playing innocent.

WHAT IS IT?
WELL...
I JUST HEARD A STRANGE RUMOR INSIDE THE CASTLE.
I THOUGHT THAT YOU SHOULD HEAR IT.
OKAY.
THERE YOU ARE, LORD KOUGAIJI.

A GREAT NUMBER OF YOUKAI HAVE BEEN KILLED IN SHANGRI-LA RECENTLY.
APPARENTLY IT'S A MAN WITH A WESTERN ACCENT.
HE HAS A LARGE GUNMAN WITH HIM.
ISN'T THAT JUST SANZO?
A WESTERN ACCENT?
THEN THOSE TWO ARE HUMANS.
MOST LIKELY. AND THERE'S MORE.
EYEWITNESSES HAVE SEEN THE MEN WORKING WITH SANZO.
SO SANZO'S GOT MORE PARTNERS.
HUNH.


OH... AND ONE MORE THING.
I'M LISTENING.
A NUMBER OF ABLE-BODIED YOUKAI ARE RACING TO BECOME SANZO'S KILLER.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A WEIRD GROUP DYNAMIC TO ME.

THERE'S A REPORT THAT THE ILLUSIONIST ZAKURO HAS DESERTED AND JOINED OUR ENEMIES.


WHAT IN THE...

I *THOUGHT* I'D CAUGHT UP WITH Y'ALL AWFUL QUICK.
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM, KOU?
DID Y'ALL CROSS THE MOUNTAINS?
UH... NOTHING, REALLY.
GOIN' OVER INSTEAD OF AROUND IS A POWERFUL WASTE OF TIME.
THIS ROOM'S SMALL AS HELL, NUTBAR.
I'D BE MUCH OBLIGED IF Y'ALL WOULD LET ME DRINK MY WINE.
IT'S CROWDED ENOUGH WITHOUT *YOUR* ASS!

HOW'D YA GET IN HERE, ANYWAY?!
ONLY SOCIOPATHS SNEAK INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S ROOMS TO DRINK.
REALLY...
Y'ALL MUST'VE NOTICED.
I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE.
OH, THIS'N THAT.
MY FACE CAN GET ME JUST ABOUT ANYTHIN' IN THESE PARTS.
MERCY, SIR--YOU CERTAINLY KNOW HOW TO HURT A FELLA'S FEELIN'S.
Great.
THE BISHOP'S AT HIS CREEPY-ASS HOLY WORK AGAIN.

I S'POSE, IF Y'ALL ARE JEALOUS, THEN THAT MEANS Y'ALL AREN'T POPULAR.
SAY THAT AGAIN, FEMMY!
EASY, GOJYO.
IT'S TRUE THAT MANY TOWNSPEOPLE HAVE YELLOW EYES HERE.
BUT WE THOUGHT THAT MIGHT NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU, MR. HAZEL.
IS THAT RIGHT?
BECAUSE NO ONE IN THIS TOWN ATTACKED US FOR BEING YOUKAI.
WELL, PRAISE THE LORD.
WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU HELD OFF FIGHTING DIRTY FOR A BIT LONGER.
I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND.

THAT'S RATHER HARSH OF YOU TO SAY.
I'M TRULY SOMEWHAT SHOCKED.
AH HA HA HA HA!!
WELL, I SUPPOSE IT'S YOUR LACK OF *ABILITY* TO COMPREHEND.

I THINK BEING BLUNT'S A NICE CHANGE.
...THIS'S REALLY CREEPY.

WHY DID YOU COME BACK WEST?
ANYWAY.

I WAS HOPIN' TO SEE YOU AGAIN, MISTER SANZO.

JUST KIDDIN' THERE.

I'M LOOKIN' FOR A YOUKAI.
WHAT, JUST ONE?
I HEARD THAT A TERRIBLE YOUKAI IS COMIN' THIS WAY.
I CAME TO TRY AND CATCH THE DEVIL.

...I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO KILL HIM.
I'M NOT QUITE SURE.
IF THE RUMORS ARE TRUE, AND HE'S HOPIN' TO HURT HUMANS...
WHAT'LL YA DO WHEN YA FIND HIM?
MERCY ME.
Ha!
WE'VE GOT BETTER THINGS TO DO.
KNOCK YOURSELF OUT, OH MIGHTY SAVIOR.
Y'ALL REALLY ARE CRUEL.
IT'S LIKE WALKING AROUND WITH A GUN THAT'S SURE TO GO OFF IN YOUR POCKET.
NO. NOW MOVE IT.
ISN'T IT MORE CONVENIENT IF WE ALL STICK TOGETHER?

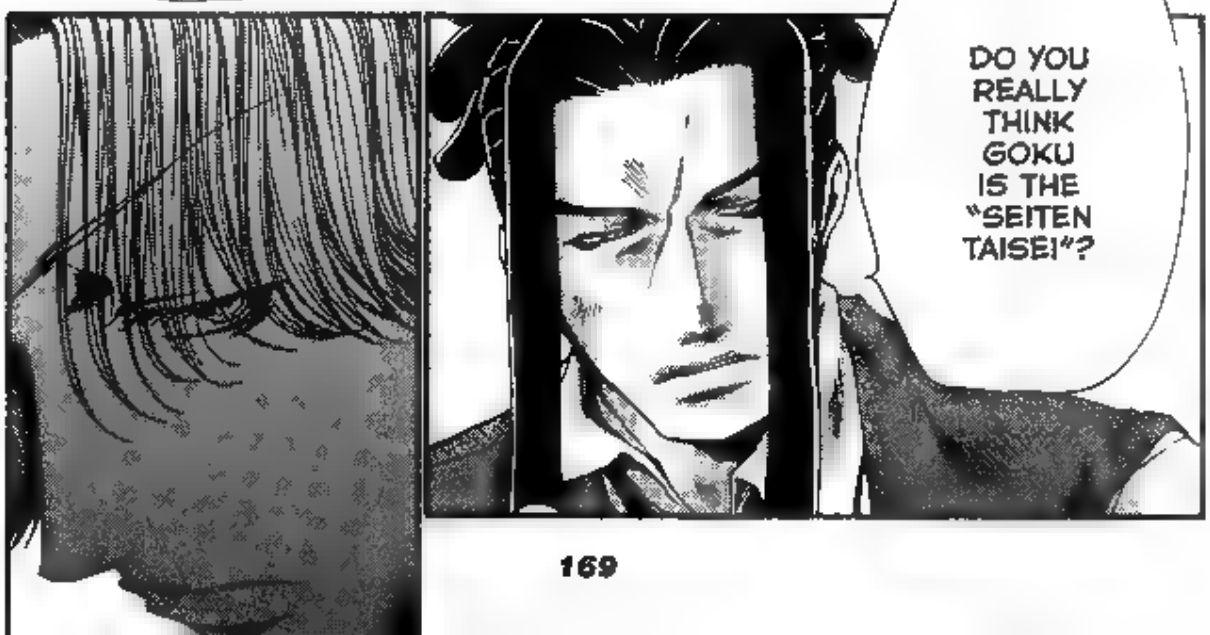
TOMORROW?
THE TOWNSFOLK'VE PREPARED A MIGHTY FINE INN FOR US.
THE FOOD THEY SERVE IS SOMETHIN' SPECIAL.
I REALLY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE HAD Y'ALL JOIN ME.
WELL, ALL RIGHT.
WE'LL SEE Y'ALL TOMORROW.
UH-HUH, UH-HUH!
IT WAS AWESOME SHANGHAI CRAB!
YOU CAN SUCK YOUR FANCY FOOD. WE'RE ALREADY STUFFED FULLA CRABS!

IF YOU'RE TALKIN' CRAB...
...KING'S THE ONLY WAY TO GO.

SETTLE DOWN, CHILDREN.
IT'S LIKE WE HAVE AN EVIL TRANSFER STUDENT.
AN' WHY DOES IT FEEL LIKE HE ALWAYS WINS?!
I FREAKIN' *HATE* THAT GUY!

HAZEL.
ALL SAID AND DONE, THIS FINERY MAKES ME RESTLESS.
...HUNH.

AS LONG AS WE'RE HERE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL LIE DOWN.
WHAT IS IT?
Wow. a Lichou


DO YOU REALLY THINK GOKU IS THE "SEITEN TAISEI"?

AND YOU'VE SEEN IT FOR YOURSELF.
THE BOY'S GOT GOLDEN EYES.
A SANZO PRIEST TRAVELIN' WITH YOUKAI...
WHO ELSE DOES IT SOUND LIKE?
I'M HAVING TROUBLE BELIEVING IT.
...YOU'RE SURE TAKIN' HIS SIDE.
THAT'S NOT IT.
EVEN IF GOKU REALLY IS THE SEITEN TAISEI...
I JUST DON'T THINK HE'S NECESSARILY EVIL.

THAT'S WHAT I CAME ALL THIS WAY TO FIND OUT.
LET'S TRY TAKIN' IT.
ABOUT THAT MAN-UKOKU.
WE'LL KEEP AN EYE ON HIM A WHILE.
IF MISTER GOKU'S THE SAGE, HE'S GOT A SEAL THAT KEEPS HIM LEASHED.
IT'S PROBABLY THAT CROWN HE WEARS AROUND HIS HEAD.
I THINK IT'S DANGEROUS TO BELIEVE EVERYTHING HE SAYS.
SOMETHING ABOUT HIM BOTHERS ME.

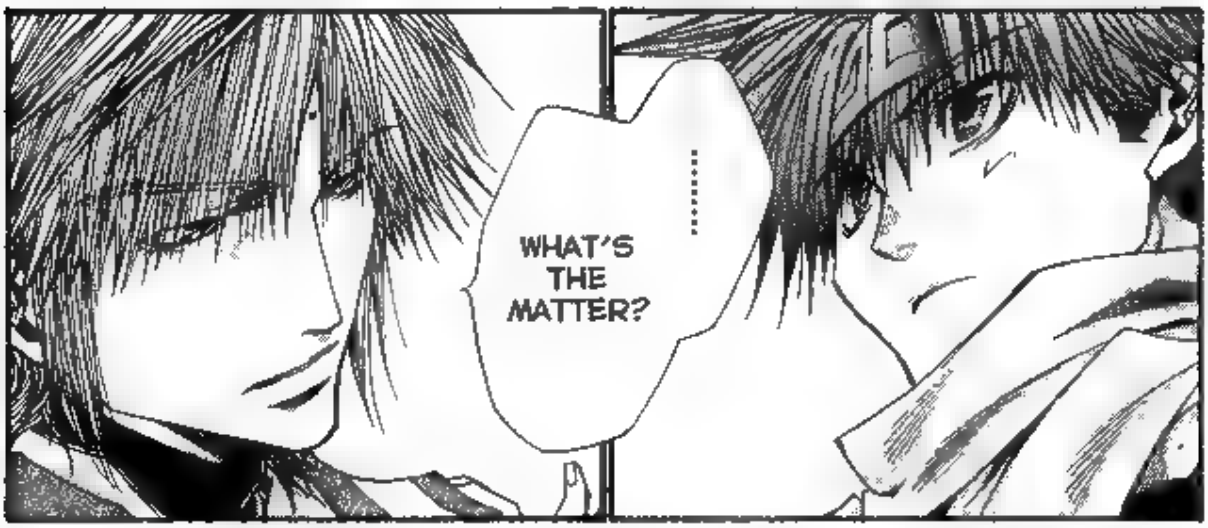
I'M AWARE, GAT.
I CAN'T FEEL ANYTHING FROM HIM.
IT'S LIKE HE WERE A DEAD MAN.
THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM, I THOUGHT HE WAS SUSPICIOUS.
MISTER SANZO'S ABILITY IS LIKE SOME KINDA LIGHT.
HE'S A RIGHT OLD MYSTERY.
HE DREW OUT MY INNER POWER.
BUT I OWE HIM, Y'SEE.

I ONCE SAW THE POWER THAT MISTER UKOKU USES.
IT WAS LIKE...
...NOTHIN'. THE *POWER* OF NOTHIN'.
I'VE NEVER AGAIN SEEN SUCH A TERRIFYIN' THING.
A DENIAL OF EXISTENCE.

PRIEST UKOKU SANZO.
HE WAS CARRYIN' THE MUTEN SUTRA.

I AM MUST HAVE WANDERED AT SOME POINT.
WHAT COULD BRING SOMEONE BACK TO LIFE?
.....
OH.
YOU'RE HERE.
SO?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
I WAS JUST WONDERIN' WHERE YA WENT.
I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

...REALLY?


WHAT'S THE MATTER?

WE'VE GONE OVER THIS, GOKU. YOU'RE WASTING WHAT FEW BRAIN CELLS YOU HAVE.
I'VE BEEN THINKIN' ABOUT WHAT IT'D BE LIKE TO BRING SOMEONE BACK FROM TH' DEAD.
UM, IT'S JUST... SINCE WE CAME TO THIS PLACE, OR MAYBE SINCE BEFORE THAT...

BUT I DUNNO.
LIKE, IF IT MADE EVERYBODY HAPPY, THEN IT WAS OKAY.
I THOUGHT THAT BRINGIN' SOMEONE BACK...
I GUESS SO. I DON'T REALLY GET IT, ANYWAY.

...OR IF SOMEONE LIKE YOU DIED, SANZO, AN' IT WAS UP TO ME.
WOULD I DO IT?
IF EVERYONE...
WHAT IF IT WAS UP TO ME?

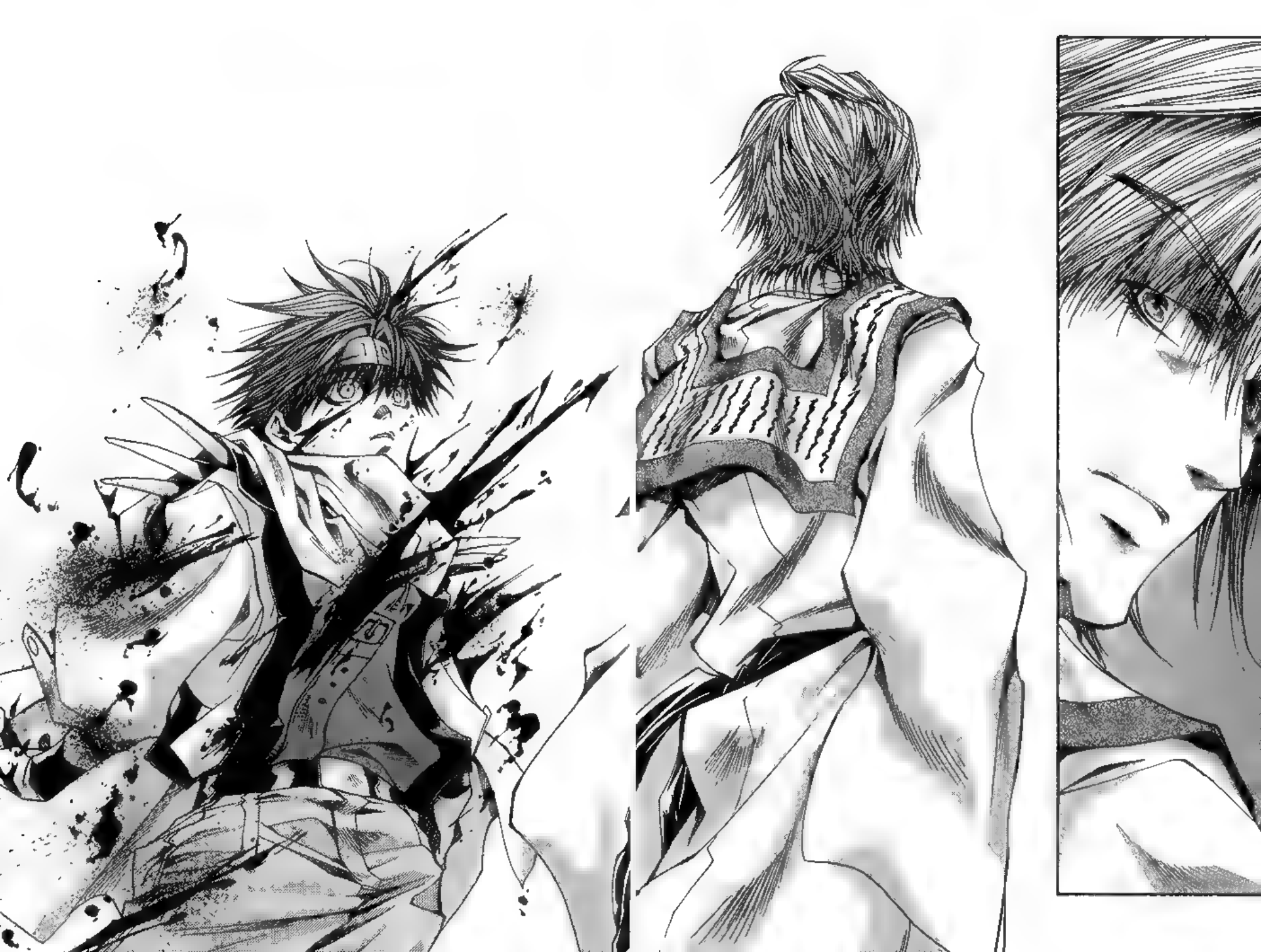
WOULD I TRY AN' BRING YA BACK?

HUH?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, GOKU?
I DON'T APPRECIATE THE FAVOR.
DON'T BE IN A RUSH TO KILL ME.
OH. I GUESSED RIGHT.
FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU LOST YOUR LIFE.
WOULD YOU WANT US TO BRING YOU BACK?
HMMM.
...NO, IT'S OKAY.

I THINK I'D BE OKAY.
THAT'S WHY I GOTTA MAKE SURE TO NOT DIE.
THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
...YEAH. I THINK I GET IT.
EVERYONE HAS TO DIE EVENTUALLY, GOKU.
THAT'S THE WAY THE WORLD WORKS.
BUT YOU HAVE TO LIVE YOUR LIFE...
...ASSUMING THAT THAT TIME ISN'T COMING FOR A WHILE.

BEIN' ALIVE REALLY KINDA MAKES ME...
MM.
NO, THAT'S JUST YOU.
...HUNGRY. ARE YA HUNGRY?
WHA? BOO.
IF YOU SLEEP IN TOMORROW, WE'RE LEAVING YOU HERE.
DO YOU REALIZE WHAT TIME IT IS? GO THE HELL TO BED.
LET'S GO EAT SOMETHIN'!

...HUH?
BUT I BET THERE'S A SHOP ON MAIN STREET THAT'S STILL...



"...NO, IT'S OKAY."

"I THINK I'D BE OKAY."

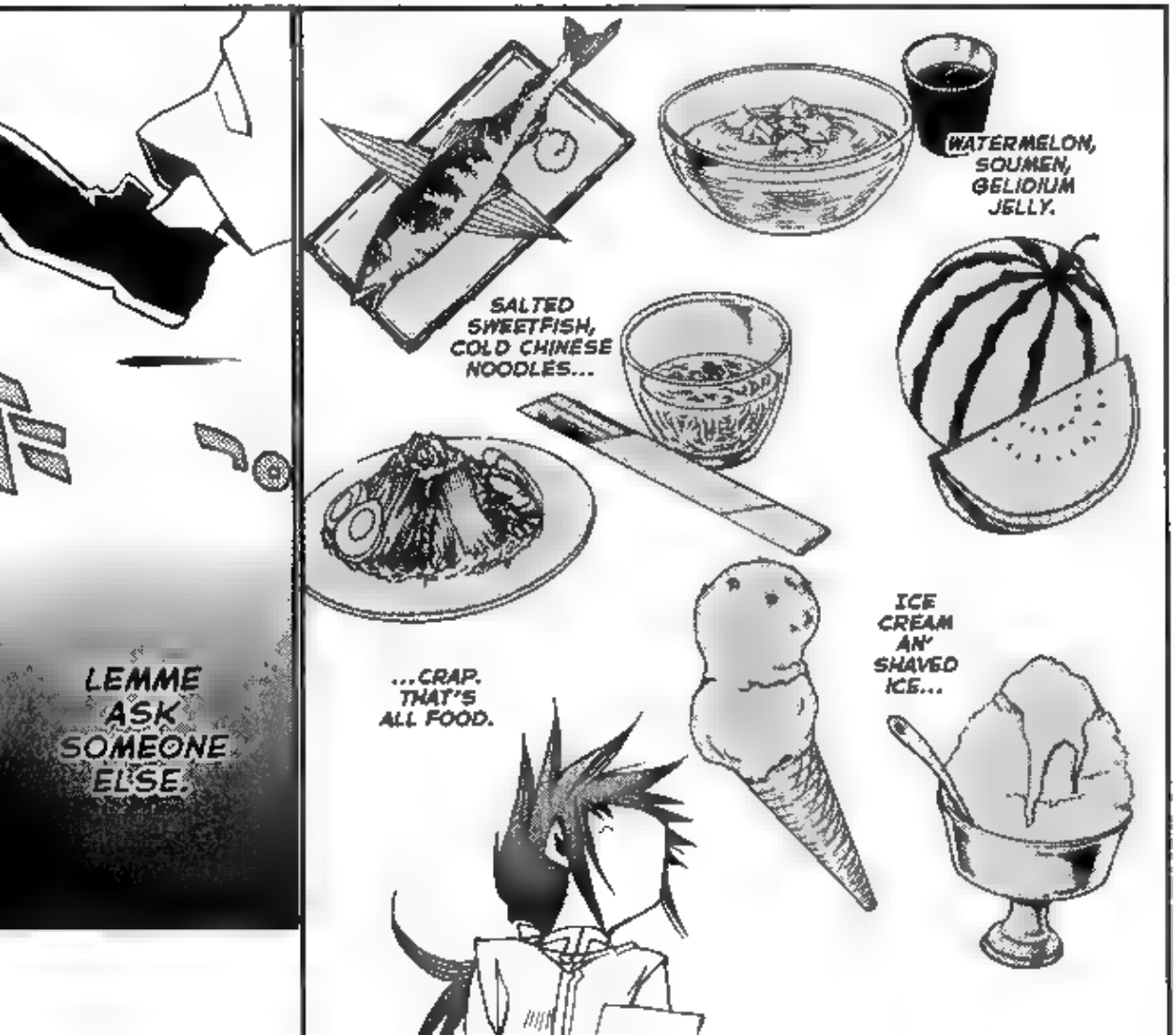
SAIYUKI RELOAD 6 THE END

鲁迅自传

act.xx
Summer Scenery

Little Zero-Sum Vol.4

This time we've requested a theme of "summer memories." Zero-Sum Editorial Department


LEMME ASK SOMEONE ELSE.
...CRAP. THAT'S ALL FOOD.
SALTED SWEETFISH, COLD CHINESE NOODLES...
WATERMELON, SOUMEN, GELIDIUM JELLY.
ICE CREAM AN' SHAVED ICE...

"I'M ALL ABOUT THE HIGH-CUT BIKINIS, BUT A MODEST ONE-PIECE CAN BE HOT."
"AND BEER AND GREEN SOYBEANS. THAT'S A REAL MAN'S SUMMER."
HIS ANSWERS SUCK.
"SUMMER MEANS SWIMSUITS, BABY."
"YOU JUST DON'T GET IT, KIDDO. I'LL TELL YOU WHEN YOU'RE OLDER."
I'M NOT A KID, YA TEN-THOUSAND-YEAR-OLD LECHY KAPPA BUTTHEAD.

"IN SUMMER, THE BEST IS NIGHT."
"NIGHTS WITH THE MOON EVEN MORE,' THEY SAY."
OKAY, HAKKAI. BUT WE'RE NOT IN JAPAN.
CHASING FIREFLIES AND LISTENING TO THE SOUNDS OF A DISTANT FESTIVAL."
"I THINK OF YUKATA, FANS AND FIREWORKS ON THE PORCH."

criiiik
criiiik
criiiik
criiiik
HONORABLE SANZO IS IN THE MAIN TEMPLE BUILDING.
...BUT I MIGHT AS WELL ASK HIM.
HE'S NOT VERY SUMMERY...
OH, YEAH. SANZO.
whirr
CLINK

NOW I REMEMBER.
criiiik
criiiik
criiiik

CICADAS CHIRPIN' FROM FAR AWAY.
TH' BUZZ OF A FAN, TH' SOUND OF ICE CRACKIN'.
RIGHT BESIDE ME, SANZO BREATHIN' IN HIS SLEEP.
THAT'S WHAT I LOVE ABOUT SUMMER.
criiiik
criiiik
criiiik

I can't even take a nap!
THIS GODDAMN HEAT MAKES ME WANT TO DIE!
Stop arguing!
INSTALL AIR-CONDITIONING IN THE TEMPLE? PLEASE TELL US YOU'RE JOKING!

SUMMER SCENERY THE END

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